Licensed,

Sept. 2. 1691.

Rob. Midgle

THE
Ingenious and Diverting
LETTERS
OF THE
Lady — TRAVELS
INTO
SPAIN.
DESCRIBING
The Devotions, Manners, Humours, Cuſtoms, Laws, Militia, Trade, Diet, and Recreations of that People.

Intermixt with great Variety of Modern Adventures, and Surpriſing Accidents: Being the Trueſt and Beſt REMARKS Extant on that Court and Countrey.

LONDON:
Printed for *Samuel Crouch*, at the Corner of *Pope's-Head-Alley* next *Cornhil*. 1691.

To the Honourable

Mrs. *Martha Lockhart.*

Madam,

I Humbly beg Leave theſe Letters may appear in an *Engliſh* Dreſs, under the Protection of your Name; whoſe accuracy in the Original, juſtly intitles you to this Dedication; and whoſe advantagious Birth, Greatneſs of Mind, and uncommon Improvements, exact a Veneration from the moſt Invidious; and render you an Illuſtrious Ornament of your Sex.

Madam, For me to attempt here the Publiſhing your Ver-

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tues and Accompliſhments, ſo
univerſally acknowledg'd by al
that have the Honour of you
Acquaintance, would be to de
tract from your Merit; and
might more juſtly be cenſured
for Preſumption than Flattery.

It were better to imitate the
Painter, who perceiving it no
poſſible to repreſent the Fa
ther's Grief for the loſs of hi
Daughter, drew a Veil over hi
Face, and owned his Inability.

But I forget, Madam, 'tis my
part only to crave your Pardon
for this bold Addreſs; and to
ſtudy ever to approve my ſelf

Madam,

Your moſt obedient Servant

A J. R.

TO THE READER.

IT is not sufficient to write things true, but they must likewise seem probable, to gain belief. This has sometime so prevail'd with me, as to make me think of retrenching from my Relation the strange Stories you will find therein. But I have been withheld from doing this, by Persons of such great Sence and Merit, as has made me conclude, that I cannot do amiss in following their Judgments.

I do not doubt but there will be some, who will accuse me of hyperbolizing, and composing Romances; but such would do well to acquaint themselves first with the Countrey, Humour, and Character of those I treat of. A Fact must not be presently condemn'd

demn'd as falſe, becauſe it is not publick, or may not hit every Man's Fancy. I cite no feigned Names, no Perſons whoſe Death may give me the liberty of attributing what I pleaſe to them.

In a word: I write nothing but what I have ſeen, or heard from Perſons of unqueſtionable Credit; And therefore ſhall conclude with aſſuring you, That you have here no Novel, or Story, deviſed at pleaſure; but an Exact and moſt True Account of what I met with in my Travels.

A RELATION OF A Voyage to *SPAIN*, IN SEVERAL LETTERS.

LETTER I.

SEeing you are ſo earneſt with me to let you know all my Adventures, and whatever I have obſerv'd during my Travels, you muſt therefore be contented (my dear Couſin) to hear with a great many trifling Occurrences,

ces, before you can meet with what w
pleaſe you. I know your Fancy is ſo ni
and delicate, that none but extraordina
Accidents can entertain you; and I wiſh
had no others to relate: but re-counti
things faithfully, as they have hapned, y
muſt be contented therewith.

I gave you an Account in my laſt
what I met with as far as *Bayonne*: Y
know this is a Town in *France*, Front
to *Spain*, waſh'd by the Rivers *Dadour* a
Nivelle, which joyn together; and the S
comes up to them. The Port and Tra
are conſiderable: I came from *Axe* by W
ter, and obſerv'd that the Boatmen of
dour have the ſame Cuſtom as thoſe of C
ronne; which is to ſay, That in paſſing
one another, they ſet up a hollowing; a
they had rather loſe their Wages than
forbear theſe ſort of Shoutings, althou
exceeding vexatious to thoſe who are
uſed to them. There are Two Caſ
ſtrong enough to defend the Town,
there are about it ſeveral pleaſant Walk

At my Arrival there, I intreated the
ron *de Caſtlenau*, who had accompan
me from *Axe*, to bring me acquain
with ſome Women, with whom I mi
ſpend my time with leſs impatience, till
Litters came, which were to be ſent to
from St. *Sebaſtian*.

He readily complied with my Requeſt; r being a Perſon of Quality and Worth, is much eſteem'd at *Bayonne*. He fail'd ot the next Morning to bring ſeveral La- es to viſit me.

Theſe Women begin here to feel the orching Heats of the Sun; their Com- exion is dark, their Eyes ſparkling: they e charming enough, their Wits are ſharp: nd I could give you a farther Account of eir Capacities, could I have better un- rſtood what they ſaid: Not but that ey could all ſpeak *French*, yet with ſuch ifferent Dialect, as ſurpaſt my Under- nding.

Some who came to ſee me, brought lit- ſucking Pigs under their Arms, as we little Dogs: It's true they were very uce, and ſeveral of 'em had Collars of bans, of various Colours: However, s Cuſtom looks very odd, and I cannot t think that ſeveral among themſelves are guſted at it: When they danced, they ſt ſet them down, and let theſe grunting imals run about the Chamber, where y make a very pleaſant Harmony. eſe Ladies danc'd at my intreaty, the on of *Caſtelnau* having ſent for Pipes Tabors.

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The Gentlemen who attended the L
dies, took each of 'em her whom he h
brought with him, and the Dance beg
in a Round, all holding Hands: they h
afterwards long Canes brought them, a
then each Spark taking hold of his Lad
Handkerchief, which separated them fro
one another, moved very gracefully at t
ſound of this Martial ſort of Muſick, whi
inſpired them with ſuch Heat, that th
ſeem'd not to be able to moderate it. Th
ſeem'd to me to reſemble the *Pyrric* Dan
ſo much celebrated by the Ancients; t
theſe Gentlemen and Ladies made ſo m
ny Turns, Friſks and Capers, their Can
being thrown up into the Air, and dext
rouſly caught again, that it is impoſſible
deſcribe their Art and Agility: And I h
a great deal of pleaſure in ſeeing 'em: B
methoughts it laſted too long, and I beg
to grow weary of this ill-ordered Ba
When the Baron *de Caſtelnau*, who p
ceiv'd it, caus'd ſeveral Baskets of dri
Fruit to be brought in. They are the *Je*
who paſs for *Portugueſes*, and dwell
Bayonne, who tranſport them from *Gen*
and furniſh all the Countrey with the
We wanted not for *Limonade*, and other
freſhing Waters, of which theſe Ladies dra
heartily; and ſo the Entertainment end

I w

I was carry'd the next Morning to ſee the ynagogue of the *Jews*, in the Suburb of e Holy Spirit, but met with nothing re-arkable there. Monſieur *de St. Pe*, the ing's Lieutenant, who came to ſee me, ough much troubled with the Gout, in-ted me to Dine at his Houſe, where I as moſt deliciouſly entertain'd; for this a Countrey abounding with good cheer, d at cheap rates. I found here Women Quality, that were very handſome, hom he had invited to bear me Compa-. The ſight of the Caſtle, which faces e River, is very pleaſant, and has al-ays a good Gariſon in it.

At my return to my Lodging, I was priz'd to find ſeveral Pieces of Linnen, hich were brought to me from the Ladies ho came to ſee me with Baskets full of ied Sweet-meats. This Treatment ſeem'd me very obliging to a Lady whom they d nor known above Four or Five Days. t I muſt not forget to tell you, there is t any finer Linen in the World, than at which is made in this Countrey, ſome which is open like Net-work, and the reads of it finer than Hair: And I re-mber, that travelling through the Vil-es of *Bourdeaux*, which may be rather l'd Deſarts, the poor Peaſants living ſo

wretchedly; yet I found among them neat Napkins as those used among Peo of Quality at *Paris*.

I fail'd not to send these Ladies such tle Presents which I thought might ple them. I perceiv'd they were great Adm rers of Rubans, and wear a great many their Heads and Ears, which made me se them a great many; to which I added veral Fans: and they, by way of retu presented me with Gloves, and Threa Stockins, most delicately knit.

In sending them to me, they desired to go to the next Chappel, which was far from my Quarters, where they inten ed to Regale me with the best Musick Town would afford: but though the were very good Voices, yet there is no gr pleasure in hearing them, because th want both Air and Skill.

The Litters which I expected fr *Spain*, being come, I prepared for my parture; but I never met with any thi dearer than these sort of Equipages; each Litter has a Master that accompan it, who keeps the Gravity of a *Roman* nator, being mounted on a Mule, and Man on another, with which they rele ever and anon those that carry the Lit I had two, I took the greatest for my

a

nd my Child, and had beſides Four Mules
r my Servants, and two others for my
ggage. To conduct them, there were
ther two Maſters and two Men. You ſee
hat charge one is at to go to *Madrid*, ſee-
g you muſt pay not only for their Atten-
ance on you forwards, but the ſame price
r their return back: However, we muſt
bmit to their Cuſtoms, and ſuffer our
lves to be peel'd by them.

I found at *Bayonne* ſeveral *Turks* and
ores, and I think a worſe ſort of People,
nd theſe are Cuſtom-houſe men: I had
uſed my Trunks to be weigh'd at *Paris*,
hat I might have the leſs to do with theſe,
rt of People; but they were more ſubtle
r to ſpeak better, more obſtinate than I;
o that I was forc'd to give them whatever
ey demanded. Scarcely was I got clear
om them, when the Drums, Trumpets,
ipes and Violins of the Town, came
hundring upon me; they follow'd me far-
her than St. *Anthony*'s-*Gate*, through which
ou paſs for *Spain* through *Biſcaye*: they
play'd each of them in their way, and all
ogether, without any Harmony, which
was enough to drive any one out of their
enſes. I ordered ſome Money to be given
hem, upon which they left perſecuting me.
As ſoon as we had left *Bayonne*, we enter'd

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into a large barren Heath, where we s
nothing but Chesnut-Trees; but we aft
wards past along by the Sea, whose Sa
makes a delightful Way, and a pleas
Prospect.

We arriv'd in good time at St. *John*
Luz: Nothing can be pleasanter than t
Borough, which is the greatest in *Fran*
and the best built; there are several sma
Cities: Its Port lies between two Mou
tains, which Nature seems to have expr
ly placed to defend it from Storms; t
River *Nivelle* disgorges it self therein; t
Sea comes up very high in it, and t
greatest Barks come up commodiously
the Key. The Seamen here are very sk
ful at catching Whales, and other lar
Fish. We were here very well entertain
so that our Tables were covered with
sorts of Wild Fowl; but our Beds we
not answerable, being stuck with Feathe
whose Pinions ran into our sides, and
wanted Quilts to lay on the top of ther
I thought when we were to pay, that
should have had a large Reckoning, b
they only demanded of me half a *Lewis D*
when they would have cost more than Fi
Pistols at *Paris*: the Situation of St. *Jo*
de Luz is extreamly agreeable.

In the moſt ſpacious part of the Town ou ſee here a very fine Church, built af- er the Modern Faſhion; and here is a paſ- age over the River *Nivelle*, on a Wood- en Bridge of great length. Here are oll-gatherers, who make you pay for e- ery thing you carry with you, not ex- pting your Cloaths. This Tax is de- anded at their pleaſure, and it is exceſ- ve on Strangers. I was weary with ſpeak- g *French* to 'em, and proteſting I was no *paniard*, they feigning not to underſtand e, ſneering in my Face, and wrapping p their Heads in their Hooded-Gowns. hey ſeem'd to me to be Thieves, diſgui- d in *Capuchins*. In ſhort, they tax'd me ighteen Crowns, and would perſwade me ey uſed me well, though I found the ntrary. But I have already told you ear Couſin), that when you travel this ountrey, you muſt ſtock your ſelf with tience, and good ſtore of Money.

I ſaw the Caſtle of *Artois*, which ſeems ſtrong place; and a little farther *Oregnes*, here the *Biſcaye* is ſpoken, without ei- er *French* or *Spaniſh*. I deſign'd to lye *Iron*, which is but three Leagues diſtant m St. *John de Luz*; and I had ſet out er Noon, but the Diſpute which we had th the Watch on the Bridge, the diffi-

culty we had in passing the Mountains of *Beotia*, and the ill Weather, joyned to other little Difficulties which hapned, were the Cause that it was Night before we arriv'd on the Borders of the River *Bidassoa* which separates *France* from *Spain*. I observ'd along the way from *Bayonne* thither little Carriages, on which they transport every thing, which have only two Iron Wheels, and the Noise they make is so great, that they are heard a Mile off, when there are many of them together, which often happen; for you often meet with Sixty or Seventy at a time: they are drawn by Oxen. I have seen the same in the Villages of *Bourdeaux*, and especially on the side of *Axe*.

The River of *Bidassoa* is usually very small, but the Snows melting, had increas'd it to such a degree, that we had no small trouble to pass it, some in a Boat and others swimming on their Mules: The Moon shined very bright, by means of which I was shew'd on the Right Hand the *Isle of the Conference*, where the Marriage of our King was made with *Maria Therese Infanta* of *Spain*. I saw a while after the Fort of *Fontarabia*, which belongs to the King of *Spain*, standing on the Mouth of this small River. The Flux and Reflux

the Sea arrives here. Our Kings heretofore pretended it belong'd to them. There have been ſuch great Conteſts hereupon, eſpecially by the Inhabitants of *Fontarabia*, and thoſe of *Andaye*, that they have ſeveral times come to blows. This oblig'd *Lewis* XII. and *Ferdinand*, to agree, that it ſhould be common to both Nations. The *French* and the *Spaniards* take Toll equally, theſe laſt making thoſe pay who paſs into *Spain*, and the former doing the like in relation to thoſe who paſs over to *France*.

War does not hinder Commerce on this Frontier: It's true they cannot ſubſiſt without it, ſeeing they muſt periſh through Want, did they not aſſiſt one another.

This Country call'd *Biſcaye*, is full of high Mountains, where are ſeveral Iron Mines. The *Biſcayns* climb up the Rocks as eaſily, and with as great ſwiftneſs as Stags. Their Language (if one may call ſuch *Jargon* a Language) is very poor, ſeeing one Word ſignifies abundance of things. There are none but thoſe born in the Countrey that can underſtand it; and I am told, that to the end it may be more particularly theirs, they make no uſe of it in Writing; they make their Children to read and write in *French* or *Spaniſh*, according to which King's Subjects they are.

It's

It's certain, as soon as I past the little Ri- ver of *Bidassoa*, I was not understood, un- less I spake *Castillan*, and not above a quarter of an Hour before, I should not have been understood had I not spoke *French*.

I found on the other side of this River a Banker of St. *Sebastian*, to whom I was re- commended: He tarried for me, with two of his Relations. They were cloath'd af- ter the *French* manner, but ridiculously, their *Justau Corps* being short and large, and their Sleeves hanging down very short: those of their Shirts were so large, that they hung down below their *Justau Corps*. They had Bands without Collars: Peri- wigs, One of which had enough Hair for Four, and so frizled, as made 'em look as if they were frighted; iller-dreſt people you cannot meet with. Those who wear their own Hair, wear it very long and close, parting it on the Crown, and pass part of it behind their Ears: But what kind of Ears think you? those of *Midas* were not larger; and I believe, that to lengthen them, they are stretch'd when they be young: without question they find some kind of Beauty herein.

My three *Spaniards* made me in bad *French* most tedious and dull Complements. We past through the Bourg of *Tran*, which is

about a quarter of a League from the river, and came afterwards to *Irun*, which is distant about another quarter of a League. This little Town is the first of *Spain* which you meet with, leaving *France*. It's ill built; the Streets are unequal, and there's nothing one can speak of. We entered into the Inn through the Stable, where are the Stairs on which you must ascend to your Chamber. This is the Countrey's fashion. I found this House very light, by great many Candles, which were as small Packthread; there were at least Forty in my Chamber, fixt on little Bits of Wood; the midst of 'em stood a Pan of Coals forming, made of Olive Rhines, to take away the Scent of the Candles.

I had a great Supper, which my Gallants *Spaniards*, had caus'd to be made ready for me; but all was so full of Garlick, Saffron and Spice, that I could eat nothing. And I had made very bad Cheer, had not my Cook made me a little Ragou of what he could find.

Determining to go but to St. *Sebastian* the next Morning, which is but Seven or eight Leagues, I thought to Dine before I set out. I was sitting at Table when one of my Women brought me my Watch to wind it up, as it was my Custom at Noon; it

it was a ſtriking Watch, of *Tompion* make, and coſt me Fifty *Lewiſes*. Banker, who was by me, ſhew'd ſome deſire to ſee it; I gave it him, with a Cuſtomary Civility. This was enough: Blade riſes, makes me a profound Reverence, telling me, He did not deſerve conſiderable a Preſent, but ſuch a Lady as could make no other; That he would engage his Faith and Reputation, that would never part with my Watch as long as he liv'd; and that he found himſelf extreamly oblig'd to me. He kiſt it at the end of this pleaſant Complement, and thruſt it into his Pocket, which was deeper than a Sack; You'l take me to be a very great Sot, in ſaying nothing to all this; and I do not wonder at it; but I confeſs ingenuouſly, I was ſo ſurpriz'd at his proceeding, that the Watch was out of ſight before I could reſolve on what I was to do. My Women, and the reſt of my Servants who were about me, ſtared on me, and on them, bluſhing with Shame and Vexation to be thus caught. However, I recollected my ſelf, and conſidered, that the Man was to pay me a good round Sum of Money for the Charge of my Journey, and to return Money to *Bourdeaux*, where I had taken it up; that having Bills of Credit on

him

him, he might use several Tricks to me, and put-off's, which might make me spend twice the Value of the Watch. In fine, I let him part with it, and endeavour'd to do my self Honour from a thing which gave me great mortification.

I have learnt since this little Adventure, that 'tis the Custom in *Spain*, when any thing is presented to one, if he likes it, and kisses your Hand, he may take it with him. This is a very pleasant Fashion, and seeing sufficiently acquainted with it, 'twill be my fault if I be trapt again.

I left this Inn, where they peel'd me sufficiently; for this is a grievous dear Country, and every one strives to be Rich at his Neighbour's Cost. A while after we had left the Town, we entred on the *Pyrenean* Mountains, which are so high and steep, that looking down, you see, not without Horror, the Precipices which environ them. We went thus as far as *Renteria*: *Don Antonio* (which was my Banker's Name) went before me; and for my more commodious passage, he oblig'd me to quit my Litter; for although we had traverst several Mountains, yet there remain'd more difficult to pass. He made me enter into a little Boat, which he had prepar'd to go down the River of *Andaye*, till we were

near

near the Mouth of the Sea, where we sa
the King of *Spain*'s Gallions: there we
three very fine and large ones. Our litt
Boats were set forth with Gilt Streamer
they were manag'd by Girls, who we
very lusty and handsome: there are thr
in each, two that row, and one who hold
the Rudder.

These Wenches are very well shaped,
Chesnut Complexion, have very goo
Teeth, Hair Black, which they tie u
with Ribbons, in Knots, and so let it han
behind them. They wear a kind of Ve
on their Heads, made of musling, embro
dered with Flowers of Gold and Silk
which hangs loose, and covers their Breasts
they wear Pendants in their Ears, of Gol
and Pearls, and Bracelets of Coral; the
have a kind of *Justau Corps*, like our *Gyp
sies*, whose Sleeves are very strait. I ca
assure you they charm'd me. I was told
these Wenches swim like Fishes, and suffe
neither Women nor Men among them
This is a kind of Republick, where they
repair from all Parts, and where their Pa
rents send them very young.

When they are willing to marry, they
go to *Mass* at *Fontarabia*, which is the
neareſt Town to 'em, and there the young
Men come to chuse 'em Wives to their Hu
mour.

mour. He that will engage himself in *Hymens Bonds*, goes to his Mistresses Parents, declares to them his Intentions, regulates every thing with them: And this being done, notice of it is given to the Maid: If she likes the Party, she retires to their House, where the Nuptials are celebrated.

I never saw a more gay Air than that on their Countenances; they have little Habitations along the Water-side, and there are Old Maidens to whom the younger pay Respect, as to their Mothers. They related these Particulars to us in their Language, and we hearken'd to 'em with great delight, when the Devil, who never sleeps, disturb'd us with a vexatious Adventure.

My Cook, who is a *Gascon*, and exactly of the Humour of those of that Country, was in one of our Boats behind us, at some distance, very near a young *Biscaneer*, who appeared to him very handsome: He contented not himself with telling her as much, but would have rudely turn'd up her Veil. She being not used to this sort of plain dealing, without any Words broke his Head with her Oar. Having done this Exploit, Fear seizing on her, she threw her self immediately into the Water, tho'

the

the Seaſon was very cold, and ſwam wi
great ſwiftneſs; but having all her Cloa
on, and it being far to the Shoar, h
Strength began to fail her. Several of the
Wenches who ſaw this at Land, leapt in
mediately into their Boats to her Aſſiſtan
when thoſe who had remain'd in the Bo
with the Cook, fearing the loſs of the
Companion, fell on him like Two Furi
reſolving by all means to drown him, a
had like Two or Three times to have ov
turn'd their little Veſſel; which we h
holding from ours, had much a-do to pa
and appeaſe them.

I aſſure you, the fooliſh *Gaſcon* was
cruelly handled, that he was all over bloo
and my Banker told me, that theſe you
Biſcaneers provoked, are worſe than Lio
In fine, we came to Land, but were ſcarc
ly on Shoar, but we ſaw this Wench whi
was ſaved out of the Water, making up t
wards us, with near Fifty others, each wi
an Oar on their Shoulder, marching
Battle-ray, with Fife and Drum; when
who was to be the Mouth of the Comp
ny, advanc'd, and calling me ſeveral tim
Andria, which is to ſay, *Madam*, (for tha
all I could retain of her Speech) gave m
to underſtand, That they would have m
Cook's Skin, if Satisfaction were not ma
pr

proportionably to the Damage done their Companions Cloaths. At the ending of which words, the She-Drummers fell loudly beating their Drums, and the reſt of theſe Amazons ſet up an hollowing, leaping and Dancing, and fencing with their Oars in a moſt aſtoniſhing manner.

Don Antonio, to make me amends for the Preſent he had wrung from me, (I cannot but often mention it, lying on my Heart as it does) undertook to make Peace. He found that my Cook, who thought himſelf ſufficiently beaten, had Reaſon to give nothing; and therefore he diſtributed ſome pieces of Money among this Marine Troop: On receipt of which they ſet forth lowder Hollow's than before, and wiſh'd me a good Journey, and ſpeedy return, each of 'em dancing and ſinging at the ſound of their Pipes and Tabors.

We entred into a very rough way, and aſcended long very narrow Paths, on the ſide of which there are Precipices; ſo that I was greatly afraid, leſt the Mules which carry'd my Litter ſhould ſtumble. We afterwards paſt over a large Sandy Field: I tarry'd ſome time in the Convent of St. *Francis*, which ſtands near the River of *Andaye*: We paſt over it on a very long Wooden Bridge; and though we were very

very near St. *Sebaſtian*, yet we could n
then perceive it, becauſe a Mount of San
hid the Town: It's ſituated on the Foot
a Mountain, which ſerves on one ſide as
Rampart againſt the Sea, and the Veſſe
come to the Foot of this Mountain, to ſhe
ter them from the Storms; for here ari
extraordinary Tempeſts, that the Ships a
Anchor periſh in the Port: It's deep, an
defended by Two Moles, which leave onl
as much room as is requiſite for one Veſſ
paſſing at a time. They have rais'd he
a great Four Square Tower, where there i
ever a good Garriſon to defend the Place, i
caſe of Aſſault. It was a fine Day for th
Seaſon. I found the Town very pleaſan
being ſurrounded with a double Wal
There are mounted ſeveral Pieces of Can
non on that part towards the Sea, wit
Baſtions and Half-Moons: The Town is ſi
tuated in a Province of *Spain* call'd *Gui
puſcoa*,: The Out-parts are exceeding plea
ſant, by reaſon that the Sea, as I now ſaid
ſerves for a Channel to it. The Streets o
this Town are long and large, pav'd wit
great White Stones, which are alway
clean. The Houſes are well enough, an
the Churches decent, in which the Altar
are of Wood, on which are hung little Pi
ctures, from top to bottom. Mines of Iron

and

nd Steel abound in this Countrey, finer nd purer perhaps than in any other parts of *Europe*; and this is the greateſt part of heir Trade. Here the Wool which comes rom *Caſtille*, is embark'd, which makes a onſiderable part of their Traffick. *Bilbo* nd St. *Sebaſtian* are Two of the moſt conderable Ports which the King of *Spain* as on the Ocean: The Caſtle ſtands very igh, and may make an indifferent Dence: Here are mounted ſeveral fine Pieces f Cannon, and there are a great many aong the Ramparts; but the Garriſon is ſo eak, that the Women might conquer them ith their Diſtaffs.

Every thing is as dear in this Town as *Paris*, yet they fare well here: Fiſh is xcellent, and I was told Fruit was the me. I lay in the beſt Inn, and when I ad been there ſome time, *Don Fernand de oledo*, ſent his Gentleman to enquire, Whether his Viſit would not be troubleſome to e? My Banker, who knew him, and who as then in my Chamber, told me, he was a *paniard* of great Quality, Nephew to the uke *D' Alva*; that he came from *Flaners*, and was going to *Madrid*.

I receiv'd him with that Civility which as due to his Birth, and ſoon thereto adyn'd particular Reſpects to his own Merit:

rit: He is a Gentleman of good Presenc has Wit and Politeneſs, is complaiſant an agreeable; he ſpeaks as good *French* as do, but underſtanding *Spaniſh*, and bein deſirous to ſpeak it better, we therefore di cours'd only in that Language.

I was very well ſatisfied with his Ca riage. He told me he came Poſt hith from *Bruſſels*, and if I pleas'd, he woul increaſe my Train, and be one of my Com pany. I thought he jeſted, and anſwe ed him accordingly; but he added, th Ways were ſo full of Snow, that indeed could not ride Poſt; That he could mak more ſpeed on Horſes than in Litters, b the Honour of accompanying me, made bundant Recompence for that. In a Wor I ſaw he was a Civil Perſon, and came n way ſhort of the Gallantry natural to th *Spaniſh* Cavaliers: I therefore conſider how advantageous it might prove to hav a Man of this Quality, and Countrey, wh could make himſelf be heard and obey'd b the *Muleteers*, who have Iron Souls, and n Conſciences.

I told him, I was very glad I met wit him, and the Fatigue of the Road woul be leſs'ned by his Company. He immed ately thereupon ordered his Gentleman t find a Litter for him: It being late, h

too

ook his leave of me, and I betook my ſelf bed after a good Supper; For, my dear ouſin, I am none of thoſe Romantick Laies that never eat.

Scarcely did I begin to ſleep, when I eard ſome body ſpeak *French* ſo near me, at I thought at firſt 'twas in my Chamer; but having hearkned with more attention, I found 'twas in a Chamber ſepated from mine by only ſome thin Boards, nd thoſe ill joynted. I drew my Curin, and ſaw Light through the Crevices, nd at the ſame time Two young Women, e eldeſt of which appeared not to be above eventeen or Eighteen; neither of 'em were thoſe Beauties without Defect, yet were ey ſo pretty, ſpake ſo ſweetly, and had ch great ſweetneſs on their Countenans, that I was much taken with 'em.

The youngeſt, who ſeem'd to continue e Converſation, ſaid to the other, *No, y dear Siſter, there is no Remedy to our Miſrtunes; we muſt die, or get them out of the lutches of the vilanous Dotard. I am reolute for any thing*, reply'd the other, *in utring a deep ſigh, ſhould it coſt me my Life: hat remains? Have we not ſacrific'd all for em?* Then conſidering a while their iſfortunes, they mutually embrac'd, and egan to weep in a moſt piteous manner:

And

And having consulted a while, and spake some other Words, the greatest part of which were interrupted by their Sighs, they concluded on Writing, which they did; and here is most of what I heard them read to one another.

Judge not of my Love and Grief by my Words, I have none can express either the one or the other; but remember you ruine me, unless you betake your self to the greatest Extremities against him that persecutes us. He has now sent me word, That if we delay our Departure, he will have us seiz'd. Consider what he deserves from this base usage of a perfidious and remember you owe me all, seeing you owe me my Heart.

I think the other Billet was in these Terms:

Could I secure thee thy Happiness, in losing mine, I love thee sufficiently to offer thee such a Sacrifice. Yes, I would fly from thee, could'st thou be happy without me; but I know thy Heart too well to believe this. Yet thou remainest as quiet in thy Prison, as if I were with thee. Break thy Chains without more delay; punish the Enemy of our Loves: My Heart shall be thy recompense.

H

Having made up these Billets, they went
t together, and, I profess, I was not a
le uneasie for 'em, and no less curious to
ow these poor Ladies Misfortunes. This
ndred me from sleeping, and I was ex-
cting their return, when immediately
re was a great Uproar in the House. I
an Old Man enter the Chamber, at-
ded by a great many Servants: He held
e of these young Women by the Hair of
Head, which he had wound about his
m, and drew her after him, as a wretch-
Sacrifice. Her Sister was not treated
h less Cruelty, by those who led her.
fidious Wretches, said he to them, *not
tent with the irreparable Injury you do my
phews, you would perswade them to be my
ecutioners? Had I not surprisezed you with
se seducing Letters, what might have hap-
? What dreadful Tragedies might I not
ve expected? But you shall pay once for all.
soon as ever the Day appears I will have
punisht as you deserve. Ah Sir*, said she
om he held, *remember we are Women of
uality, and that our Alliance can be no dis-
our to you; that your Nephews have giv'n
their Faith, and we them ours; that in so
der an Age we have left all for their sakes;
t we are Strangers, and have no Friends
e: What will become of us? We dare*

not return to our Relations: if you are constraining us to this, or for putting us Priſon, let us intreat you rather preſently diſpatch us out of the World.

The Tears which they ſhed in ſuch bundance, wrought in me the greateſt co paſſion: And had the Old Man been as t der as I, he had ſoon freed 'em from t Trouble.

My Women, who had heard ſuch a g diſturbance, and ſo near my Chamber, ar in the fear of ſome Miſhap towards me made Signs to them to draw near ſof and to behold through the Boards this rowful Spectacle. We hearkned to w they ſaid, when Two Men, with t Swords in their Hands, entred into Chamber, the Door of which my Wo had left open. They had Deſpair pain on their Faces, and Rage in their Eyes was ſo greatly frighted, that I cannot preſs it to you. They look't on one a ther without ſpeaking a Word; and hav heard the Old Man's Voice, they ran that ſide.

I did not doubt but 'twas the Two vers; and 'twas them indeed, who ent like Two Lions into this Chamber. T ſtruck theſe Servants with ſo great Ter that never a one of 'em dared approach

ſter, to defend him, vvhen his Nephevvs vanced tovvards him; and ſet their vords to his Throat. *Barbarian*, ſaid y to him, *can you thus uſe Women of ality, that are to be our Wives? Becauſe are our Guardian, muſt you therefore be Tyrant? And is not the ſeparating of us m what we love, the taking our Lives from ? It's now in our Power to take a juſt ven- nce of you; but we cannot do it to a Man your Age, who cannot defend himſelf: e us then your Word, and ſwear by all that's od and Holy, That in acknowledgment for Life we give you, you will contribute to Happineſs, and ſuffer us to perform what have promis'd.*

The poor Old Wretch vvas ſo affright- that he could hardly make any An- er: Hovvever, he ſvvore more than y vvould have him; He fell on his ees, and kiſt an hundred times his umb laid a-croſs one of his Fingers, af- the manner of *Spain*. Yet he told them, at vvhatever he had done, vvas only in ard to their Intereſts; hovvever, h uld not in any ſort, for the future op e their Inclinations, in reference to his rriage. Tvvo of the Domeſticks t under the Arm, and rather carry'd *ves of* ay than led him. Then the Gentleme *of*

ſeeing themſelves free, threvv themſelve
their Miſtreſſes Arms; they ſaid to one
other, *Whatever Grief, Love and Joy d*
ſually inſpire in ſuch occaſions. But in tr
one muſt have a Heart as affected and
tent as theirs, to repeat all theſe thin
They are only proper to Perſons more
der than you are, my dear Couſin. B
hope you vvill excuſe this Relation: I
ſo tired, in having not yet ſlept, that I c
ſcaree hear any more, but confuſedly:
to hear no more, I got farther into
and threvv the Quilt over my Head.

The next Morning *Don Fernand de*
Iedo, ſent me ſome choice Wines, v
great quantity of Oranges and Svv
meats. As ſoon as he thought it a pr
time to viſit me, he came: Having tha
him for his Preſent, I ask't him, Whe
he had heard nothing of vvhat had pa
the Night? He told me, *No*; for he
lain in another part of the Houſe. I
about relating to him vvhat I knevv, vv
our Hoſteſs entred into the Chamber:
came from the Tvvo Gentlemen vvho
giv'n me that diſturbance, vvith the Svv
in their Hands, intreating me to re
ve Excuſes. She likevviſe told me,
ſtruc young Ladies deſired they might v
that me, and kiſs my Hand. I anſvv

ſe Civilities as I ought; and they ſoon
red.

What charming Effects does the return
Joy produce? I found theſe Gentlemen
y vvell ſhaped, and theſe Ladies very
ely; neither one nor the other had any
re on their Countenances the Chara-
rs of Deſpair; an Air of Gayety diſ-
y'd it ſelf in all their Words and Ge-
res. The Eldeſt of the Tvvo Brethren
de the moſt handſome Excuſe as is poſſi-
for his Miſtake in entring my Chamber:
added, he had vvell obſerv'd the Fear
had caus'd me; but told me, that in that
ment he vvas ſo tranſported, that he
as capable of no other thought but the
cuing his Miſtreſs. *You would have been
blame*, ſaid I to him; *ſhould you have
ught of any thing elſe: However, if it be
e, you are willing to make me ſatisfaction
the Alarum you have giv'n me, you muſt
refuſe the gratifying my Curioſity: With
ſe fair Ladies leave, inform me what has
uced all of you to theſe Extremities you
re in.* He lookt on them, as if it were
ask their Approbation, which they wil-
gly conſented to; and he thus began:

We are Two Brothers, Madam, Natives of
rgos, *and of one of the beſt Families of*

this City. We were very young, when we into the Hands of an Uncle, who took ca our Education and Estates, which are so c derable, that we need not envy others on account. Don Diego (is our Uncle's Na he had made long since a firm Friendship a Gentleman living near Blaye, whose Me far above his Fortune; he is call'd Monsi de Mesignac. Our Uncle resolving to sen for some time into France, he wrote here to his Friend, who offered him his Ho which he joyfully accepted. He made us out; and it is a year since we were rece there with great Civility. Madam de M signac used us as her own Children; She several; but of her Four Daughters, those see are the most aimable. It would have very difficult to have seen them every day dwell with them, and yet not to have lo them.

My Brother at first conceal'd from me growing Passion, and I hid mine from him; were both of us very melancholly: The tr ble of loving, without being lov'd again, the fear of displeasing those who caus'd Passion; all this cruelly tormented us: Be new Vexation did greatly increase our disq which was a restless Jealousie we had of another. My Brother plainly saw I was Love, and thought 'twas with his Mistress

on him likewiſe as my Rival; and we bore Hatred to one another, as might have tranſ-ed us to the greateſt Extremities; but that ſolutely determin'd one day to diſcover my timents to Mademoiſelle de Meſſignac; *wanting Courage to ſpeak to her my ſelf, I te ſome Verſes in a little Book touching my ſion for her, and dexterouſly ſlid it into her ket, without her perceiving me. My Bro-r, who had always an Eye on me, obſerv'd and playing with her, he took out the Ver-and found 'em to contain a reſpectful and ſionate Declaration of Love to her. He kept n till Night, when being withdrawn into my amber, with the greateſt inquietude, he came me, and tenderly embracing me, he told me, was heartily glad at the notice he had of my ng in love with* Mademoiſelle de Meſſig-.

I remain'd as one Thunderſtruck; I ſaw my pers in his Hands: I imagin'd ſhe had de them a Sacrifice to him, and that he came inſult on my Misfortune. He ſaw in my es and Countenance part of what I thought. ndeceive your ſelf, *continued he,* ſhe gave n not to me; I have taken 'em without r ſeeing them. I will be ſerviceable to u for the obtaining her; be you the ſame me in relation to her Elder Siſter. *I then braced him, and promis'd him all he deſired.*

Thus we mutually rendred good Offices to ea
another; and our Miſtreſſes, who were not in
acquainted with the power of Love, began ne,
accuſtom themſelves to hear talk of it. evi

It would be to abuſe your Patience, to a
you, Madam, how we came at length by ac.
Cares and Aſſiduities to win their He aſſ
What happy Moments! What ſweet Hou beſe
to ſee without ceaſing what one loves, and it
be beloved! to be together in the Fields, w ffe
an Innocent and Countrey Life let's one t in
without diſturbance, the pleaſures of a grou reſ
Paſſion: This is a Felicity which cannot be ha
preſt. s F

Winter being come, Madam de Meſſig ay
was at Bourdeaux, *where ſhe had a Hou* t
We accompany'd her thither; but this H tr
was not great enough to lodge us, with all m
Family; we took one near hers. uſt

Thô this Separation was only the Nig I
yet we had lively Reſentments of it: We ſh
not now every moment with 'em; our V ead
were accompany'd with a certain Air of C na
monies, which diſturb'd us. But our A co
rum's were much increas'd, when we ſaw ne
rich handſome Sparks addreſs themſelve to
Mademoiſelle de Meſſignac, *and earn* dy
Court them, and that with the Approbatio d
their Parents. Good God, how we lookt! T re
Proceedings went on at a great rate, and at

ear Miſtreſſes, who ſhared in our Sorrow, ingled every day their Tears with ours. In ne, having throughly tormented our ſelves, by eviſing a thouſand fruitleſs ways, I reſolv'd addreſs my ſelf to Monſieur de Meſſig- ac. *I ſpake to him, and told him what my aſſion inſpired me, to perſwade him to defer eſe Marriages. He anſwer'd,* He accepted, ith the greateſt Acknowledgments, the ffers my Brother and I made him; but eing not of Age, what we might do at reſent might be afterwards Cancell'd: hat his Honour was dear to him, though is Eſtate was ſmall; however, ſhould al- ays eſteem himſelf happy, in living with- t Reproach: That my Uncle, who had truſted us to him, might juſtly accuſe m of ſeducing us; and that in ſhort, we uſt no more think of theſe Matters.

I withdrew in the greateſt Affliction, which ſhared with my Brother; and this was a readful trouble among us. Monſieur de Meſ- gnac, *to compleat our Misfortunes, ſent an ccount to my Uncle, of what had paſt, and rneſtly intreated him to lay his Commands on to be gone. He did ſo; and ſeeing no Re- dy to our Misfortunes, we went, my Brother d I,* to Mademoiſelle de Meſſignac, *we rew our ſelves at their Feet; We told them at might perſwade Hearts already pre-poſ-*

ſeſt: We gave them our Faith, and Promi
Sign'd with our Blood. In fine, Love m
an end of vanquiſhing them: they conſente
go with us. In fine, we took ſuch meaſu
that our Paſſage was happy enough till our
rival here; and it is not two days ſince entr
this Houſe, the firſt perſon offering himſelf
us was Don Diego; He was impatient of
Return; and to ſatisfie himſelf, he came
queſt of us. How did we look at this ſig
He caus'd us to be apprehended as Crimina
and forgetting that Mademoiſelles ne Meſ
nac, were the Daughters of his beſt Friend,
Perſons of Quality, he loaded them with
juries, and o're-whelm'd them with Thr
nings, after he had learnt from one of my
vants, that we had reſolv'd to paſs incogn
as far as Madrid, to ſome Relations we
there, to tarry in this place for a full liber
declaring our Marriage. He lock't us up
Chamber next his; and we were there
theſe Ladies came by Moon-light, coughing
der our Windows. We heard them, and
to them——They ſhew'd us their Letters;
we were deviſing on our deliverance, when
Uncle, having notice of what paſt, ſilently c
upon us with all his Servants, and before
Faces miſuſed theſe aimable Creatures.
the Exceſs of our Deſpair our Strength, w
out doubt, increas'd; We broke open the D
w

which were fast shut on us, and we ran to succour them, when imprudently, Madam, we came into your Chamber.

The Gentleman here stopt, and I found he had related his little History with great ingenuity. I thank't him for it, and offer'd these Ladies my Endeavours, and those of my Friends, to appease their Family; Which Offers they accepted, and testifi'd their Acknowledgments.

Some Ladies of the Town, who came to see me, wou'd stop me; they proposed to me to go to the Religioses, whose Convent is so pleasantly situated, that the Prospect has no Bounds: You may see thence, at the same time, the Sea, Ships, Towns, Woods and Fields. They spake much in praise of the Voices, Beauty, and good Humour of these *Religioses*. Add to this, that the ill Weather was so increast, and the snow fall'n in so great abundance, that no body adviſed me to proceed in my Journey. I was in suspence a while, but the impatience I had to be at *Madrid*, prevail'd over all these Considerations, and I parted the next Morning. I have receiv'd of my Banker the Money I want.

But I must not forget to tell you, That the Inhabitants of this Town have a particular

ticular Priviledge, and of which they a
not a little proud; Which is, That wh
they treat of any Affairs with the King
Spain, and that it is directly with him, he
oblig'd to speak with them bare-headed.
could not get the Reason from 'em
this.

I am told I must furnish my self wi
good store of Provision, to prevent st
ving in some places through which we m
pass; and Gammons of *Bacon*, and d
ed Tongues, being much esteem'd in t
Countrey, I have therefore taken up a go
quantity; and as to the rest, we have su
ciently provided. Now this being the Po
day, I would not omit this occasion of
forming you of what has hapned to m
and testifying, that I am,

From St. Sebastian, *Yours.*
Feb. 20. 1679.

LETTER II.

I Re-assume, Dear Cousin, without any Compliments, the Sequel of my Travels: In leaving St. *Sebastian*, we entred into a very rough way, which brings you to such terrible steep Mountains, that you cannot ascend them without climbing; they are call'd *Sierra de St. Adrian.* They shew only Precipices and Rocks, on which a pushing Lover may meet with certain Death, if he has a mind to it. Pine-Trees of an extraordinary heighth crown the top of these Mountains. As far as the Sight will reach you see nothing but Deserts, cut with Streams clearer than Chrystal. Near the highest part of Mount St. *Adrian*, you meet with an elevated Rock, which seems to have been placed in the midst of the way to block up the passage, and thus separate *Biscaye* from the *Old Castille.*

A tedious and painful labour has pierced this Mass of Stone in manner of a Vault; You may walk Forty or Fifty Paces under it, without sight of Day, but what comes by the Overtures at each Entry, which are shut by great Doors. You find under this Vault

Vault an Inn, which is left in the Wint
by Reaſon of the Snows. You ſee h
likewiſe a little Chappel of St. *Adrian*, a
ſeveral Caverns, where Thieves commo
retreat; ſo that it is dangerous paſſing h
without being in a condition of defen
When we had traverſt the Rock, we ſtil
little aſcended, to arrive to the top of
Mountain, vvhich is held to be the high
of the *Pyrennea's*; it is vvholly cove
vvith great Aſh Trees. There vvas ne
a finer place of Solitude; the Springs
here as in the Vallies: the ſight is o
bounded by the Weakneſs of the Eye
Shades and Silence here reign, and the
cho's anſvver on every ſide. We began
tervvards to deſcend dovvn faſter than v
climbed up: We ſavv in ſome parts lit
barren Plains, many ſandy places, and e
and anon Mountains covered vvith gre
Rocks. It is not vvithout Reaſon, that
paſſing ſo near, you fear, leſt ſome one
'em ſhould get looſe, vvhich vvould c
tainly overvvhelm one; for you ſee ſo
vvhich are fall'n from the top, and
ſtopt, and hang in their paſſage on oth
Clefts; and theſe finding nothing in t
vvay, vvould give a ſorry Diverſion t
Traveller. I made all theſe Reflections
my eaſe; for I vvas alone in my Litt
vvi

with my Child, who did not at all disturb my Thoughts. A River call'd *Urrola*, big enough, but which was increased by the Torrents, and melted Snow, slides along the Way, and breaks forth into particular Streams in some places, which fall with a great impetuosity and noise, and make a very pleasant sound and sight.

We meet not here with those fine Castles to be seen on the Banks of the *Loire*, which make Travellers call it the Countrey of *Fairies*. Here are on these Mountains only some Shepherds Cottages, and some few Hovels, and at that distance, that you must go a great way before you can find them; yet all these natural Objects, though very melancholly ones, yet have something that is very taking in them. The Snows were so high, that we had always Twenty Men, who made way for us with Shovels. You will perhaps imagine this cost me very much; but here are so well establisht Orders, and those so well observ'd, that the Inhabitants of a Village are oblig'd to meet Travellers, and be their Guides to the next; and no one being bound to give them any thing, the least liberality therefore satisfies them. To this first Care there is added another, which is that of Ringing the Bells without ceasing, to give notice to Travellers,

lers, where they may retreat in ſtormy We
ther. They told me, there had not fal
this Forty years ſo much Snow as we m
with, there having been no Froſt for a gr
while in this Province.

Our Troop was ſo great, that we mig
count our ſelves no ways inferiour to th
Famous Caravans which go to *Mecha*;
without reckoning my Train, and that
Don Fernand de Toledo, there joyn'd with
near St. *Sebaſtian*, Three Knights, with th
Attendants, who return'd from their Co
manderſhips of St. *James*. There were T
of this Order, and one of that of *Alca*
tara. The firſt wear Red Croſſes, in fo
of an embroidered Sword, on their Sho
ders; and he of *Alcantara* had a Gre
one. One of the Two firſt is of *And*
louſia, the other of *Galicia*, and the Thi
of *Catalonia*. They are of good Famili
he of *Andalouſia* calls himſelf, *Don Eſt*
de Carvajal; he of *Galicia*, *Don San*
Sanniento, and the other of *Catalonia*, *D*
Frederic de Cardonne. They are Perſons
good *Meine*, and well acquainted with t
World. I receiv'd all poſſible Civilit
from them, having much of the *Fre*
Humour in them. They have travell'd ov
the greateſt part of *Europe*; and this h
rendred them ſo polite. We went to

t *Galareta.* This is a Borough a little di-
ant from Mount *Adrian*, ſituated in the
ttle Province of *Spain* I now mention'd,
amed *Alava*, which makes a part of *Biſ-*
ayc. We had there but bad Entertainment.
hey reckon it eleven Leagues from thence
o St. *Sebaſtian.*

We had better Way from *Galareta* to *Vi-*
toria, than we had the day before. The
Countrey here yields much Corn and
Grapes, and the Villages lie very thick to-
ether. We found here Cuſtom-houſe-men,
ho made us pay both for the Cloaths and
oney we carry'd with us. They were
ot very exacting with us, becauſe our
Company was too large to be impoſed on.
Don Fernand de Toledo had inform'd me o-
er night, that we were to travel near the
Caſtle of *Quebare*, which was ſaid to be
aunted with a Spirit, telling me a thou-
nd extravagant Stories, which were rea-
ily ſwallow'd by the Inhabitants of the
Countrey, and which were ſo effectually
eliev'd by them, that no body would live
here. I had a great deſire to ſee this place;
or although I am naturally as fearful as an-
ther, yet am not afraid of Ghoſts; and if
were, our Company was ſo numerous,
s would animate the greateſt Coward. We
ruck off a little to the left, and came to
the

the Borough of *Quebara*. The Maſter of the Inn where we entred, had the Keys of the Caſtle: He told us, in going along with us, that the *Duende*, which is to ſay, the Spirit, could not endure Company; yet if we were a thouſand together, he would, if he were minded, beat us all, in ſuch a manner, as to leave us for dead. I began to tremble; *Don Fernand de Toledo*, and *Don Frederic de Cardonne*, who gave me the Hands, perceiving my Fear, burſt out into Laughter. I grew aſham'd, and pretended to gain Courage; and ſo we entred the Caſtle, which might have paſt for a fine one had it been kept in order: It had no Furniture, except an old Tapiſtry Hanging in a great Hall, which repreſented the Amours of *Don Pedro* the Cruel, and *Donna Maria de Padilla*. She is repreſented ſitting like a Queen in the midſt of other Ladies, and the King placing on her Head a Crown of Flowers. In another part ſhe ſate under the ſhade of a Wood, the King ſhewing her a Hawk on his Fiſt: And again, in another, ſhe appears in a Warrier's Dreſs, and the King in Armour preſents her with a Sword, which makes me believe that he had been in ſome Warlike Expedition with him. She was very ill repreſented, and *Don Fernand* told me, he had ſeen her Bath-

ing

gies elſewhere, by which ſhe appeared to e the moſt beautiful and moſt cruel Woman of her Time; and that the Figures n this Tapiſtry reſembled neither her nor he King; his Name, Cypher, and Arms vere every where on it. We went up into a Tower, on the top of which was a Dungeon, and 'twas there where this Spirit inhabited; but without doubt he was broad, for we neither ſaw nor heard him, r any of his Companions; and having en ſufficiently this great Building, we left to purſue our Journey. In approaching *ictoria*, we paſt over a moſt delightful lain, at the end of which ſtands a Town tuated in this Province of *Spain* I lately ention'd, call'd *Alava*. This is the Capital Town of it, as well as the firſt of *Caille*. It is incloſed with two Walls, one which is old, and the other new; beſides is, it has no other Fortifications. After I d refreſh'd my ſelf a while here, 'twas poſed to me to go to a Play; but in rying till it began, I had no ſmall Diverſion, in ſeeing come into the moſt ſpacious ace of the Town, four Companies of ung Men, preceded by Drums and Trumts: They march'd ſeveral times round, d in fine, immediately began the Fight th Snow-balls, which they threw at one

an-

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another with ſuch fierceneſs, that they we
all very well pelted in the end. They we
above 200. who fought this Battle.
tell you of thoſe who fell, or recovered th
Feet again, and the Shouts and Acclama
ons of the People, will be needleſs; and
was obliged to leave them thus engage
to go to the place where the Play was
be repreſented.

When I entred into the Room, the Pe
ple ſet forth an hollowing, *Mira*, *mir*
which is to ſay, Look, look! The D
coration of the Theatre was not over ma
nificent: It was rais'd on Barrels, and
rang'd Planks; The Windows of the Roo
were open, for they uſed no Candles
Flambeaux; Whence you may eaſily im
gine this much takes away from the Bea
ty of the Sight. They acted the Life
St. *Anthony*: And when the Players ſa
any thing which pleas'd the Company,
the People cry'd out, *Victora*, *Victora*:
was inform'd this was the Cuſtom of t
Countrey. I obſerv'd the Devil was no
ther ways clad than the reſt, having only
pair of Stockings of a Flame-colour, and
pair of Horns to diſtinguiſh him. T
Comedy conſiſted only of Three Acts, a
they are all no more. At the end of ea
ſerious Act, another began of Farce a

Ple

leaſantry, wherein appear'd him they all'd *El gracioſo*, which is to ſay, the Buffoon, who, among much inſipid Stuff, ſays ometimes ſomething that is leſs nauſeous. he Interludes were mixt with Dances, to he ſound of the Harps and Guitars. The ctors had Caſtagnets, and a little Hat on eir Heads, without which they never ance, and then 'tis a *Saraband:* They em not to walk, they ſlip along ſo light- . Their manner is wholly different from urs: They move too much their Arms, nd often paſs their Hands on their Hats nd Face, and that with no ill Grace; they lay admirably well on the Caſtagnets.

As to the reſt (Dear Couſin), I would ot have you think theſe Actors, for being a little City, do much differ from thoſe *Madrid*. I was told, that thoſe of the ing are a little better; but, in a Word, oth act what they call *la Comedias Famo-*, which is to ſay, the fineſt and moſt faous Comedies, which in truth are very diculous. For Example, when St. *Anony* ſaid his *Confiteor*, which he did often ough, all the Spectators fell down on eir Knees, and gave themſelves ſuch rude *lea Culpa's*, as was enough to beat the reath out of their bodies.

Here

Here would be a proper place to ſpeak
their Habits; but you had better excuſe
till I come to *Madrid*, leſt I tire you wi
Repetitions. Yet I muſt tell you, that
the Ladies I ſaw in this Company, had
prodigious quantity of Red, which begi
juſt under the Eye, and paſſes from t
Chin to the Ears, and Shoulders, to the
very Hands; ſo that I never ſaw any R
diſhes of a finer Colour.

The Lady Governeſs of the To
drew near to me; ſhe juſt touch't
Cloaths, and haſtily drew back her Ha
as if ſhe had burnt her Fingers. I bad h
in *Spaniſh* not to be afraid. She at leng
familiariz'd her ſelf, and told me, 'tw
not through fear of any thing elſe but
diſpleaſing me: That 'twas no new thi
to her to ſee *French* Ladies; and that
ſhe might, ſhe would gladly dreſs her ſ
after their Faſhion. She ordered Choc
late to be brought her, with which ſhe p
ſented me; which is far better here than
France. The Play being ended, I took
leave of her, having thanked her for h
Civilities.

The next Morning, as I entred t
Church to hear Maſs, I eſpied an Herm
who had the Air of a Perſon of Qualit
and yet begg'd an Alms of me, with ſu
gr

reat Humility, that I was greatly ſurpriz'd
t it. *Don Fernand* having notice of it,
rew near, and ſaid to me, *The Perſon whom*
u behold, Madam, is of an illuſtrious Fami-
, and of great Merit, but his Fortune very
happy.

You raiſe in me, ſaid I to him, *a great Cu-*
oſity to know more; and therefore I muſt beg
ur Favour to ſatisfie it. You may command
y thing of me, replied he, *Madam; but I*
n not ſo throughly inform'd of his Adven-
res, to undertake the relating them to you;
d I believe 'twere better I engage him into a
ecital of them himſelf. He left me, and
ent immediately to embrace him, with
e greateſt Civilities and Tenderneſs. *Don*
ederic de Cardonne, and *Don Eſteve de Car-*
gal, had already accoſted him, as their
d Acquaintance; and when *Don Fernand*
d joyn'd them, they all earneſtly intreat-
him to come with them when Maſs was
er. He as earneſtly excuſed himſelf; but
ing told, I was a Stranger, and much im-
rtuned, that I might learn from himſelf,
at had oblig'd him to turn Hermit, he
length conſented, on condition I would
rmit him to bring one of his Friends,
o was perfectly knowing in what rela-
to him. *Do us Juſtice*, continued he,
d judge whether 'tis fit for me to relate

ſuch

ſuch Particularities in this Habit I we
They found he had Reaſon, and pra
him to bring his Friend, which he di
while after I was at my Lodgings. He p
ſented a very fine Gavalier to me; and
king leave of us very civilly, he told hi
He ſhould be oblig'd to him, if he wo
ſatisfie the Curioſity which *Don Fernand*
Toledo had giv'n me, of knowing
Spring of his Misfortunes. This Gen
man took place by me, and began in th
Terms:

I think my ſelf very happy, Madam, t
my Friend has choſen me to ſatisfie the D
you have of knowing his Adventures: b
fear I ſhall not acquit my ſelf ſo well a
would. The Perſon whoſe Hiſtory you w
learn, has been one of the fineſt Gentlemen
the World: it would be hard to make a Ju
ment of him now; he is buried, as it were
his Hermit's Habit. He was an exceed
graceful Perſon, well ſhaped, of an excel
Meine, and Noble Air: And in fine,
all the Accompliſhments, both Natural
Acquired, of a Perſon of Quality, being libe
witty, and brave. He was born at Cagl
Capital of the Iſle of Sandagne, *of one of*
moſt illuſtrious and richeſt Families of all
Countrey.

He was brought up with one of his Cou-
Germans; And the ſympathy which was
nd in their Humours, and Inclinations, was
great, that they were more ſtrictly united by
endſhip than Blood: They had no Secret
m each other. And when the Marquiſs
baran was married (which was his Cou-
's Name), their Friendſhip continued in the
e force.

He married one of the fineſt Women in the
rld, and the moſt Accompliſh't; She was
n not above Fourteen. She was Heireſs to a
y Noble Eſtate and Family. The Marqueſs
ry day diſcovered new Charms in the Wit
Perſon of his Wife, which likewiſe increa-
every day his Paſſion. He ſpake without
ſing, of his Happineſs, to Don Lewis de
baran; which is the Name, Madam, of
Friend; and when any Affairs oblig'd the
rquiſs to leave her, he conjured him to ſtay
h the Marchioneſs, thereby to leſſen the
uble of his Abſence. But alas! how hard
when one is at an Age uncapable of ſeri-
Reflections, to ſee continually ſo fine a Wo-
n, ſo Young and Aimable; and to ſee her
h indifference! Don Lewis was already
perately in Love with the Marchioneſs, and
ught then 'twas only for her Husband's
e. Whilſt he was in this Miſtake, ſhe fell
ngerouſly ſick; at which he grew ſo dread-

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ful melancholly, that he then knew, but late, this was caus'd by a Passion which w prove the greatest Misfortune of his whole Finding himself then in this condition, having not strength to resist it, he resolv use the utmost Extremity, and to fly an void a place where he was in danger of b with Love, or breaking through the Bond Friendship. The most cruel Death won'd seem'd gentler than the Execution of this sign; When the Marchioness beginning to g better, he went to her to bid her Adieu, *see her no more.*

He found her busied in choosing among ral Stones of great price, those which the finest, which she intended to have set Ring. Don Lewis *was scarce entred Chamber, but she desired him, with that of Familiarity usual among Relations, and fetch her other Stones which she mos had in her Cabinet. He ran thither, an an unexpected good hap, found among wh lookt for, the Picture enamell'd of the chioness, in little, set with Diamonds, an circled with a Lock of her Hair; it wa like, that he had not the power to withst an desire he had of stealing it. I am go leave her,* said he, *I shall see her no mo sacrifice all my quiet to her Husband: A is not this enough? And may I not with*

Cr

ime, ſearch in my Pains a Conſolation ſo nocent as this. He kiſt ſeveral times this ſigure; he put it under his Arm, he careful- hid it, and returning towards her with theſe ones, he tremblingly told her the Reſolution had taken of traveling. She appear'd much azed at it, and chang'd her Colour. He kt on her at this moment; he had the plea- e of perceiving it; And their Eyes being intelligence, ſpake more than their Words.

as! What can oblige you, *Don Lewis, d ſhe to him,* to leave us? Your Couſin ves you ſo tenderly; I eſteem you; we e never pleas'd without you; he cannot e from you. Have you not already tra- ll'd? You have without doubt ſome o- er Reaſon for your Departure, but at lt do not hide it from me. Don Lewis, *re'd through with ſorrow, could not forbear tering a deep ſigh, and taking one of the licate Hands of this Charming Perſon, on hich he fixt his Mouth,* Ah, Madam, What you ask me? *ſaid he to her,* What ould you have me ſay to you? And in- ed, What can I ſay to you, in the con- tion I am in? *The Violence he uſed, to nceal his Sentiments, caus'd him ſuch a great eakneſs, that he fell half dead at her feet. e remain'd troubled and confuſed at this ht. She oblig'd him to ſit down by her:*

She dared not lift up her Eyes to look on hi
but she let him see Tears, which she could
forbear shedding, nor resolve to conceal f
him.

Scarcely were they come to themselves, w
the Marquiss entred into the Chamber.
came to embrace Don Lewis with all the
stimonies of a perfect Friendship, and he
in the greatest trouble, when he understoo
parted for Naples. He omitted no Ar
ments to perswade him from it, prest his
with the greatest Earnestness, but all in v
He there immediately took his leave of
Marchioness, and saw her no more.
Marquiss went out with him, he left him
till the moment of his departure. This
an Augmentation of Don Lewis's Sorr
he would have willingly remain'd alon
have an intire liberty of afflicting h
self.

The Marchioness was sensibly afflicted
this separation; She had perceived he l
her, before he had known thus much hims
And she had found in him such singu
Merit, that for her part too she had l
him without knowing it; but she found
to her Cost after his departure. Recove
but lately from a dangerous sickness, of w
she was not perfectly cured, this unhappy
cident made her fall into a languishing in
posu

ition, as ſoon rendred her quite another bo-
; her Duty, her Reaſon, her Vertue equally
rſecuted her : She was greatly ſenſible of
r Husband's Reſpects to her, and ſhe could
t ſuffer but with great ſorrow, that another
uld take up her Thoughts, and have ſo great
lace in her Affections. She dared not any
re mention the Name of Don Lewis ; *She*
ver made any Enquiries after him : She
de it an indiſpenſable Duty to forget him ;
is Violence which ſhe uſed on her ſelf, was
a continual Martyrdom ; She made one of
Women, in whom ſhe moſt confided, the
poſitary of this Secret. Am not I very
happy, *ſaid ſhe ?* I muſt wiſh never a-
in to ſee a Man, towards whom it is im-
ſſible for me to be in a ſtate of indiffe-
nce ; his Perſon is always before mine
es ; nay, I think ſometimes I ſee him in
e Perſon of my Husband ; the Reſem-
ance which is between them, ſerves on-
to nouriſh my Affection towards him.
as ! *Mariana*, I muſt die, to expiate this
ime, although it be an involuntary one ;
have only this means to get rid of a Paſ-
n of which I cannot hitherto be Miſtriſs.
as, what have I not done to ſtifle it, this
ſſion which yet is dear to me. *She ac-*
mpany'd theſe Words with a Thouſand
hs : She melted into Tears ; and tho this

Woman had had a great deal of Wit and A
fection to her Miſtriſs, yet ſhe could ſay noth
to her could yield her any comfort.

The Marquiſs in the mean time, every
reproacht his Wife with her indifferency to D
Lewis. I cannot ſuffer, *ſaid he to her,* t
you ſhould think ſo little on the Man I l
above all the World, and who had ſo m
Complaiſance and Friendſhip for you.
muſt needs ſay, this is a kind of hardn
which would make one judge untowar
of the tenderneſs of your Heart: At le
you muſt grant, Madam, that he
ſcarcely gone, but you forgat him. W
good would my remembring him do hi
ſaid the Marchioneſs with a languiſhing
Do not you ſee he avoids us? Would
not have been ſtill with us, if he had
real Kindneſs for us? Believe me,
Lord, he deſerves a little that we ſho
forſake him in our turn. *Whatever ſhe co*
ſay, repel'd not the Marquiſs; he ſtill
portuned her to write to Don Lewis *to ret*
One Day among the reſt, ſhe was gotten into
Cloſet to ſpeak to him about ſome Affa
She found him buſied in reading a Letter
Don Lewis, *which he lately receiv'd.*

She would have retir'd; but he took
opportunity to oblige her to do what he wo
have her: He told her very ſeriouſly, T

could no longer bear the Absence of his
ousin; that he was resolv'd to go find
m; that 'twas already two years since he
d been gone, without intimating any de-
e of returning to his Friends and Coun-
y: That he was perswaded he would
eld a greater deference to her Requests
an his; that he conjured her to write to
m: And that in fine, she might chuse ei-
er to give him this satisfaction, or be con-
nt to see him part for *Naples*, where *Don*
ewis was to make some stay. *She was*
rpriz'd, and perplext at this Proposal; but
nowing be expected with great impatience her
Determination. What would you have me
y to him, my Lord, *said she to him with a*
orrowful Air? Dictate this Letter to me,
will write it; I can do no more; and I
believe this is more than I ought. *The*
Marquiss, transported with Joy, most affectio-
nately embrac'd her; he thank'd her for her
compliance, and made her write these Words:

IF you have any kindness for us, defer not your Return, I have very urgent Reasons to desire it. I am not a little concern'd that you shew such indifference towards us, which is an unquestionable Indication that you take no delight in our Company. Return, *Don Lewis*, I earnest-

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ly wish it; I intreat you: And if it w
fit for me to use more urgent Terms
would say, perhaps, I command you
do it.

The Marquiss made a single Pacquet of
fatal Letter, to the end Don Lewis *might*
think 'twas by his Order the Marchioness
wrote it; and having sent it to the Cur
be expected the success with extraordinary
What became of this Lover at
sight of so dear and ... Order.
though he had remark't Dispositions of Ten
ness in the Countenance of this fair Person,
he dared not promise himself she could desire
Return; his Reason revolted against his
How unhappy a Wretch am I, *said he*?
adore the most aimable of all Women, a
yet I dare not offer to please her: she h
a kindness for me, yet Honour and Frien
ship withhold me from making the le
Advantage of it. What shall I do then,
Heavens! What shall I do! I flatter'd m
self, that Absence would cure me: Alas
this is a Remedy which I have fruitless
tried; I have never cast mine Eyes on he
Picture, but have found my self more in
Love, and more miserable than when I saw
her every day. I must obey her, she co
mands my return; she desires to see me
and

and she cannot be ignorant of my Passion: When I took my leave of her, my Eyes declared to her the Secret of my Heart; And when I call to mind what I saw in hers, all my Reflections then are to no purpose; for I resolve rather to die at her feet, than to live remote from her.

He parted without any delay, and without taking leave of his Friends. He left a Gentleman to excuse him towards them, and to order his Affairs. He was in such great haste to see the Marquiss, that he used such diligence to be with her, that no body but he could have done. In arriving at Cagliari, *Capital of* Sardagne, *he understood that the Marquiss and his Wife were at a stately Country-house, where the Vice-Roy was gone to give them a Visit, with all his Court. He learnt moreover, that the Marquiss de* Barbazan *prepared for him a great Feast, where there were to be held Justs or Turnaments, after the Ancient Manner of the* Mores. *He was the Defendant, and was to maintain,* That an Husband beloved, is happier than a Lover.

Several Gentlemen that were not of this Opinion, were preparing themselves to go and dispute the Prize, which the Marchioness at the Vice-Queens intreaty, was to give to the Con-

querour: 'Twas a Scarf embroidered with h
own Hands, wrought with Cyphers: No o
was to appear but maskt and disguised, to t
end all might be freer and more gallant.

Don Lewis had a secret despight, in com
prehending the Marquiss so well satisfi'd. H
is belov'd, said he, I cannot but look o
him as my Rival, and as an happy Riva
but we must endeavour to disturb his Ha
pines, in triumphing over his Vain-glor
Having form'd this Design, he would not a
pear in the Town: He caus'd to be made
Suit of strip'd Green Satin embroidered wi
Gold, and all his Liveries was of the sa
Colour, to denote his new Hopes.

When he entred into the Lists, every bo
had their Eyes on him; his Magnificence a
his Air gave emulation to the Cavaliers, a
great Curiosity to the Ladies. The Marchion
felt a secret Emotion of which she could
discover the Cause: He was placed very n
the Balcony, where she sate with the Vi
Queen; but there was no Lady there wh
did not lose all her Lustre near that of
Marchioness: Her youthful Air, which
ceeded not Eighteen Years, her lovely n
and Red Cheeks, her Eyes so sweet and gra
ful, her Scarlet, and little Mouth, agree
Smiles, and her Shape, which surpast the fa
est, made her the Admiration of all the Wo

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Don Lewis *was ſo raviſh'd in ſeeing her ſo charming, and to obſerve yet in her Countenance a languiſhing ſorrowful Air, that he flattered himſelf to have therein a part; And this was the firſt moment wherein he thought himſelf happy. When his turn came, he ran againſt the Marquiſs, and ſmote him ſo dexterouſly, that he got the Advantage all along of him: ſo that in a word, he gain'd the Prize with a general Applauſe, and with every ones good liking. He threw himſelf at the Marchioneſs's Feet, to receive it at her Hands: He altered the Tone of his Voice; and ſpeaking to her with his Mask on, low enough not to be heard, but only by her:* Divine Perſon, *ſaid he to her,* be pleas'd to obſerve what Fortune decides in favour of Lovers. *He dared not ſay more to her; and without knowing him, he gave him the Prize, with this Natural Grace with which all her Actions were accompany'd.*

He ſuddenly withdrew himſelf, for fear of being known; for this might have been an occaſion of quarrel between the Marqueſs and him, and without doubt he would not have eaſily pardon'd the Victory he obtain'd over him. This oblig'd him to keep himſelf ſtill conceal'd for ſome Days. The Vice-Roy and his Lady return'd to Cagliari, and the Marqueſs and Marchioneſs accompany'd them thither, with the whole Court. Don

Don Lewis *then ſhew'd himſelf; He pr*
tended he juſt then arriv'd, and made as if
knew not what had paſt in the Field.
Marquiſs de Barbaran *was tranſported wi*
Joy in ſeeing him; and Abſence had not
all altered the Affection he had for his de
Relation. He had no difficult task to find
favourable moment wherein to entertain his ai
able Marchioneſs: He had as much liberty
their Lodgings as in his own; and you may w
judge, Madam, that he forgat not to menti
the Prize he had receiv'd from her fair hands
How wretched am I, *ſaid he to her*, tha
you did not know me? Alas, Madam,
flattered my ſelf, that by ſome ſecret Preſen
timents you would learn, that no one bu
I could ſuſtain with ſuch Paſſion the Cauſ
of Lovers againſt Husbands. No my Lord
ſaid ſhe to him, with an Angry and Diſdainfu
Air, to take away all hope from him, I coul
never have imagin'd that you could hav
been Patron of ſo foul a Cauſe; and
could not have believ'd you could have ta
ken ſuch ſtrong Engagements at *Naple*
that you ſhould come as far as *Sardagne* t
triumph over a Friend who maintain'd m
Intereſts as well as his own. I ſhall di
with Regret, Madam, ſaid *Don Lewis*, if
have diſpleas'd you in what I have done
And were you more favourably diſpoſed

and

nd I might dare to make you my Confi-
ent, it would be no hard matter for me to
erſwade you, that it is not at *Naples* I
ave left the Object of my Vows.

The Marchioneſs apprehending leſt he ſhould
eak more than ſhe was willing to hear, and
ppear livelily toucht with the Reproach ſhe
ade him, ſhe put on a more pleaſing Air, and
urning the Converſation into a Tone of Rail-
ery, anſwer'd him, He took too ſeriouſly
hat ſhe had ſaid to him. *He dared not*
ake uſe of this occaſion to declare his Love to
er; for though he lov'd her above all things,
t he reſpected her no leſs.

When he had left her, he began to blame
imſelf for his fearfulneſs: Shall I, *ſaid he,*
lways ſuffer without ſeeking any Remedy?
was ſome time before he could meet with a
vourable occaſion, becauſe the Marchioneſs
adiouſly avoided him; but being come one
ight where ſhe was, he found her alone in
n inward Room, lying on a Bed in a moſt
vely manner, and moſt becoming undreſs, her
lair being faſtned with ſome Knots of Dia-
onds, hung careleſly about her Breaſts. The
ouble ſhe felt in ſeeing Don Lewis, *appear'd*
n her Countenance, and rendred her yet more
vely. He drew near her with an Awful and
eſpectful Air, fell down on his Knees by her:
e look't on her for ſome time, not daring to
ſpeak,

ſpeak; but becoming a little more bold, If
conſider, Madam, *ſaid he to her,* the pite
Condition whereto you have reduced
you will eaſily comprehend that it is
longer in my power to keep ſilence: I co
not avoid ſuch inevitable ſtroaks as
have giv'n me: I have adored you as ſo
as I ſaw you: I have endeavour'd to c
my ſelf in flying from you; I have offer
the greateſt Violence to my ſelf, in end
vouring to maſter my Paſſion. You ha
recall'd me, Madam, from my Volunta
Exile, and I die a thouſand times a d
uncertain of my Deſtiny: If you be cr
enough to refuſe me your Pity, ſuffer
leaſt, that having made known to you
Paſſion, I may die with Grief at your Fe
The Marchioneſs was ſome time without re
ving to anſwer him; but at length, gain
aſſurance, I acknowledge, *ſaid ſhe, Don Le*
is, that I am not wholly ignorant of o
part of your Sentiments, but I was willi
to perſwade my ſelf 'twas the Effects of
innocent Affection: Make me not a Pa
ner of your Crime: You commit o
when you betray the Friendſhip due to
Husband: But, alas, you will pay but t
dearly for this; for I know that Duty fo
bids you to love me; and in my Reſpe
it does not only forbid me to love you, b

fly from you. I will do it, *Don Lewis*, I ill avoid you; and I do not know, whe-er I ought not to hate you: But, alas, it ems impoſſible to me to do it. What do u then, Madam, *anſwer'd he, interrupting r with an Air full of Grief and Deſpair*, hen you pronounce the Sentence of my eath? You cannot hate me, ſay you; o you not hate me, and do you not do e all the Miſchief you are able, when you ſolve to avoid me? Make an end, Ma-am, make an end, leave not your Venge-nce imperfect; ſacrifice me to your Duty, nd your Husband; for my Life cannot but e odious, if you take from me the hopes f pleaſing you. *She lookt on him at this in-ant with Eyes full of Languiſhment.* Don ewis, *ſaid ſhe to him*, you reproach me with what I would deſerve. *In ending theſe Words, ſhe aroſe, fearing greatly, leſt her Af-fection ſhould triumph over her Reaſon; And notwithſtanding his endeavours to withhold her, ſhe paſt into a Chamber where her Women were.*

She thought ſhe had gained much on her ſelf in forcing her way out of this Converſation, without anſwering ſo favourably as her Heart would have wiſht. But Love is a Seducer, which muſt not be in any ſort hearken'd to, if one will not be totally overcome by him. From

that

that day Don Lewis *began to think him*
happy, though he wanted many things to c
pleat his Felicity. The Marchioness, in
felt, had a Principle of Vertue, which opp
it self always with success to the desires of
Lover.

He had no longer those Scruples of Frie
ship for the Marquis de Barbaran, *wh*
had so greatly disturb'd his Mind, Love
perfectly banisht Friendship; nay, he even
cretly hated him.

In fine, Don Lewis *flattering himself, t*
perhaps he might find a favourable moment
affect the Marchioness's Heart with some P
he carefully sought it; and to find it, one
when 'twas very hot, knowing that the Marc
oness was wont to retire to repose her self
ter Dinner, as it is customary in that Countr
he came to her, doubting not but every body w
a sleep in the House.

She was in a Ground-Room which lo
into the Garden; all was fast and shut clo
save a little Window, whereby he saw on b
Bed this charming Creature: She was in
profound Sleep, half undrest: He had the ti
to discover such Beauties as still augmented t
Force of his Passion. He approacht so soft
to her, that she did not awake. It was a
ready some moments that he had lookt on he
with all the Transports of a Man amazed
when

ben seeing her naked Breasts, he could not for-
ar kissing them. She arose on a sudden,
e had not her Eyes open; the Chamber was
rk, and she could never have believ'd Don
ewis could have been so bold. I have alrea-
told you, Madam, that he resembled the
arquess de Barbaran; She did not doubt
n but it was he, and calling him several
mes, her dear Marquis and Husband, she
nderly embrac'd him. He well knew his Er-
; whatever Pleasure it procured him, he
uld have wish'd to have ow'd this only to
Mistresses Favours. But, O Heavens, how
fortunately it hapned! The Marquis came
this dangerous moment, and 'twas not
bout the greatest Fury he saw the Liberty
on Lewis took with his Wife. At the
se he had made in entring, she had turn'd
Eyes towards the Door, and seeing her
band enter, whom she thought she had al-
dy in her Arms, it is impossible to represent
Affliction and Astonishment.

Don Lewis amaz'd at this Accident, flat-
ed himself, that perhaps he was not known;
past immediately into the Gallery, and find-
a Window was opened into the Garden, he
ew himself out of it, and immediately past
ough a Back-door. The Marquis pursued
, without being able to overtake him. In
rning the same way he came, he unhappi-
ly

ly found the Marchioness's Picture, which D
Lewis had dropt as he ran. He immedia
made most cruel Reflections hereupon.
Picture of his Wife, which Don Lewis
let fall, and the sight of her embracing h
all this made him no longer doubt of his W
Falshood: I am betray'd, cry'd he, by
whom I loved dearer than my own Li
Was there ever a more unhappy Man in
World? In ending these Words, he ret
ed to his Wives Chamber. She immedi
threw her self at his Feet, and melting
Tears, would have justify'd her self,
make known to him her Innocency; bu
Spirit of Jealousie had so fully possest him,
he violently repress her: He hearkned on
the Transports of his Rage and Despair,
turning away his Eyes, that he might no
so lovely an Object, he had the Barbari
strike his Dagger into the Breast of the
Beautiful and most Vertuous Woman in
World. She offered her self to be slaugh
as an innocent Sacrifice, and her Soul issue
in a stream of Blood.

O God, cryed I, O imprudent Don
is, why did you leave this Charming
to the Fury of an Amorous Husband,
sported with Jealousie? You might
snatch'd her out of his cruel Hands.
Madam, replied this Gentleman, he

ot what he did; for what would he not ve done at another time to have prevent- such a Misfortune.

As soon as the unfortunate Marchioness had ndred her last breath, her cruel Executioner ut her Apartment, took all the Money and ewels he had, mounted on Horse-back, and d with all the speed he could. Don Lewis fless, *and more Amorous than ever, return'd ther in the Evening, notwithstanding what- r might befall him. He was surpriz'd when was told the Marchioness was still asleep; Door was yet shut, and the Marquis rode t. A secret fore-boding began to put him fearing the worst: He immediately went to the Garden, and entred into the Gallery, ough the same Window which he had found n, and from thence came into the Chamber: was so dark, that he was fain to walk wa- y. When he felt something which had like to e made him fall, he stoop'd down, and nd it was a dead body. He uttered a great riek, and doubting not but it was that of dear Mistris, he sunk down with Grief: me of the Marchioness's Women walking un- the Windows of her Apartment, heard n Lewis's Cry: They easily got up through same Window, and entred the Room. What d Spectacle, what a lamentable sight was ? I cannot find Words to denote to you*

the

the Horror of this Spectacle. Don Le
was no sooner come to himself, by the forc
Remedies, but his Grief, Rage and Desp
broke out with such Violence, that it was
possible to calm him, and I am perswaded
had not out-lived her whose loss he occasio
if the desire of Vengeance had not re-anima
him.

He parted like one furious in search of
Marquess de Barbaran; He sought him
ry where without hearing any news of hi
He ran over Italy, traverst Germany, c
into Flanders, and past into France. He
told that the Marquiss was at Valentia
Spain: He came there, and met not with h
In fine, three years being past, without fin
the means of sacrificing his Enemy to his
striffes Ghost, Divine Grace, which is irre
ble, and particularly on Great Souls, to
his so efficaciously, that he immediately cha
his Desire of Revenge into serious Desire
leaving the World, and minding only the fu
himself for another Life.

Being fil'd with this Spirit, he return'd
to Sardagnia: He sold all his Estate, w
he distributed among some of his Friends,
with great Merit were yet very poor; an
this means became so poor himself, that he
duced himself to the begging of Alms.

He had heretofore seen, in going to Madrid, place very fit to make an Hermitage (it is wards Mount Dragon.) This Mountain almost inaccessible, and you cannot pass to it through an Overture, which is in the midst a great Rock. It is stopt up when the Snow ls, and the Hermitage lies buried more than Months under it. Don Lewis made one be ilt here, where he was wont to pass whole rs without seeing any one. He made such visions as were necessary, having good Books, d thus remain'd in this dismal Solitude: t this year his Friends forced him hither, by son of a great sickness, which had like to e cost him his Life. It is four years since has led this Holy Spiritual Life, and so ferent from that to which he was born, that s with great trouble he sees any of his Acintance.

As to the Marquess de Barbaran, he has ly left the Isle of Sardagnia, where he has the liberty to return. I am inform'd he married again at Anvers, to a Widow of a niard named Fonceca.

And it is he himself that has related to one ny Friends the Particularities of his Crime; d he is so furiously tortured with the remembrance of it, that he imagines he continually his Wife dying, and reproaching him with Fury and Jealousie. In a word, he has con-

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contracted such a deep Melancholly, that Death is thought by every one to be near, or the least, the loss of his Senses.

The Gentleman here was silent; and not being able to forbear weeping at Tragical a Relation, *Don Fernand de T do*, who had observ'd it, and would take notice of it, for fear of interrupt the Relation, rally'd me about my Tend ness, telling me how well he was pleas' find me so compassionate, and that I sh not be long before I met with Objects to exercise it on. I did not so much m the returning an Answer to him, as thanking this Gentleman, who was ple to entertain me with the Recital of so traordinary an Adventure. I intreated to make my Compliments to *Don L* and to give him from me Two Pistols, ing he liv'd on Alms. *Don Fernand*, each of the Cavaliers, gave as much. *is*, said the Gentleman to us, *whereas enrich the Poor of* Victoria; *for* Don L *appropriates not such great Charities as th Himself.* We told him, he was the M and might dispose of the Money pleas'd. But to return to my Ad tures.

Although I had a Paſport from the King of *Spain*, the beſt ſpecified, and moſt general, as is poſſible, yet I was obliged to take a Billet from the Toll-Houſe; for without this Precaution, all my Cloaths had been confiſcated. *To what purpoſe then is my Paſſport*, ſaid I to them? *To none at all*, replied they. The Surveyors and Officers of the Cuſtoms would not ſo much as caſt their Eyes on it: They told me, the King muſt come and aſſure them, that his Order was from him. It is to no purpoſe for any one to alledge his being a Stranger, and ignorant of the Uſages of the Countrey. For they drily anſwer, that the Strangers Ignorance makes the *Spaniards* Profit. The ill Weather has kept me here Two Days, during which I ſaw the Governneſs and the Play. The principal Place of this Town is adorn'd with a very fair Fountain ſtanding in the midſt: it is incircled with the Town-Houſe, the Priſon, Two Convents, and ſeveral well-built Houſes. Here is a New Town and an Old one; every body forſakes this latter to dwell in the other. They are very Rich Merchants; their Staple of Trade is at St. *Sebaſtian* or *Bilbo*. They ſend great ſtore of Iron to *Grenada*,

nada, Estremadour, Galicia; and other parts of the Kingdom. I observ'd, that the great Streets are set with Trees, which are Watered with Streams running by them. From *Mount St. Adrien* hither, it is Seven Leagues. Now fine, I am just setting out; and must end this long Letter; It is late, and I have spoke to you so much of what I have seen, that I have said nothing of my Affections to you. Believe me however, Dear Cousin, That I am, and shall be,

From Victoria, *this* 24*th of* Feb. 1673.

Yours.

L

LETTER III.

MY Letters are ſo long, that it is hard to believe when I finiſh them, that have any thing elſe more to tell you; yet, my dear Couſin, I never cloſe any but there remains ſtill ſufficient for another. When were only to ſpeak to you of my Friendſhip, this would be an inexhauſtible Subject; you may make ſome Judgment of it om the pleaſure I find in obeying your ommands. You are deſirous to know all e Particnlars of my Voyage, I will therere go on to relate them.

I ſet out very late from *Victoria*, by reaon of my ſtay at the Governeſs's, whom before mention'd; and we went to lie at *iranda*. The Countrey is very pleaſant far as *Avigny*. We came afterwards by difficult Way to the Banks of the River *rola*, whoſe noiſe is the greater, in that is full of Rocks, on which the Water daes, beats up, and falls down, and forms atural Caſcades in ſeveral places. We ntinued to aſcend the high Mountains of e *Pyrenees*, where we ran a thouſand ſe-

veral Dangers. We saw the Ancient
ines of an Old Castle, where Ghosts
Spirits have their Apartments, as well
that of *Guebara*; it is near *Garganson.*
being to stop there to shew my Pasport,
cause here certain Customs are paid to
King, I learnt from the *Alcade* of the
rough, who drew near my Litter to
with me, that it is the common Repo
the Countrey, that there were former
King and a Queen here, who had so
and beautiful a Woman to their Daug
that she was rather taken for a God
than a Mortal Creature. She was c
Mira; and it is from her Name came
Mira of the *Spaniards*, which is to
Look you; for as soon as ever she appe
all the People attentively beheld her,
cried out, *Mira, mira:* And here's the
mology of a Word drawn far enough.
Princess was never seen by any body
became not desperately in love with
but her Disdainfulness and Indiffer
made all her Lovers pine away. The
mous *Basilisk* never kill'd so many Peop
the Beatiful and Dreadful *Mira*; She
depopulated her Father's Kingdom, an
the Countreys thereabouts were full of
deceased and dying Lovers. After
had in vain addrest themselves to her,

ſtly applied themſelves to Heaven, to de-
and Vengeance on her Cruelty. The
ods at length grew Angry, and the God-
ſſes were not much behind them in the
xerciſe of this Paſſion: So that to puniſh
r, the Scourges of Heaven finiſh'd the
eſtruction of her Father's Kingdom. In
is general Calamity he conſulted the O-
cle, which told him, That all theſe Mi-
ies would not have an end, till *Mira* had
piated the Miſchiefs which her Eyes had
ne, and that ſhe muſt be gone: That
eſtiny would conduct her to the place
here ſhe was to loſe her Repoſe and Li-
rty. The Princeſs obey'd, believing it
poſſible for her to be touch'd with Ten-
meſs. She carry'd only her Nurſe with
r; She was clad like a ſimple Shepher-
ſs, leſt ſhe ſhould be taken notice of, whe-
er at Sea or Land. She ran over a great
rt of the World, committing every Day
wo or Three Dozen of Murthers; for
r Beauty was not diminiſh't by the Fa-
gue of her Travels. She arriv'd at length
ar this Old Caſtle, which belong'd to a
ung Count call'd *Nios*, endowed with a
houſand Perfections, but extream Proud
d Reſerv'd. He ſpent his Time in the
oods; As ſoon as ever he perceiv'd a
oman, he fled from her, and of all things

he saw in the World, she was his gre
Aversion. The beautiful *Mira* was re
her self one day under the shade of
Trees, when *Nios* past by, cloathed w
Lyon's Skin, a Bow at his Girdle, a
Mace on his Shoulder; his Hair was
clotted together, and his Face be-sme
like a Chimney-Sweeper's (this Circ
stance is observable), yet the Pri
thought him the most handsome Man in
World: She ran after him as if she
been Mad, and he ran from her as
had been in the same Condition. She
the sight of him; she knew not whe
find him: She is now in the greatest
row, weeping Day and Night with
Nurse. *Nios* return'd to the Chase;
saw him again, and would have foll
him: As soon as he perceiv'd her, he
as at first, and *Mira* betook her self a
to her Lamentations; but her Passio
ving her new Strength, she out-ran
stopt him, taking hold of his Locks,
treating him to look on her, thinking
was enough to engage him. He cas
Eyes on her with as much indifference
she had been an ordinary Person. N
Woman was more surpriz'd; She w
not leave him; she came maugre hi
his Castle: Where, as soon as she had

d, he there left her, and was no more
n. The poor *Mira*, being not to be
mforted, died with Grief; And from
t time you hear deep Sighs and Groans,
ich come from the Caſtle of *Nios*. The
ng Wenches of the Countrey are uſed
go there, and carry her little Preſents of
uits and Milk, which they ſet down at
Mouth of a Cave, where no body dare
ter. They ſaid, this was to comfort
; but this has been aboliſht as ſuperſti-
ous: And though I believ'd not a Word
whatever was told me at *Garganſon*, in
lation to *Mira* and *Nios*, yet I was pleas'd
the Recital of this Story, of which I omit
Thouſand Particulars, for fear of tiring
u by its length. My Waiting-Woman
s ſo affected with this Relation, that
was for having us return back again, to
at the Mouth of the Cave ſome Red
rtridges, which my People had bought.
e imagin'd the Princeſs's Ghoſt would be
ghtily comforted in receiving this Teſti-
ony of our Good Will; but for my part,
thought I ſhould be more content than
, in having thoſe Partridges for my Sup-
. We paſt the River of *Urola*, on a
at Stone-Bridge, and having went over
other, with difficulty enough, by reaſon
the melted Snow, we arriv'd at *Miranda*

D' Ebro. This is a great Village, or a
tle Town. Here is a large place ador
with a Fountain: The River *Ebro*, wh
is one of the moſt conſiderable of *Sp*
traverſes it: You ſee on the Top o
Mountain the Caſtle, with ſeveral Tow
It appears to be of ſome Strength,
there iſſues out ſo great a Stream fro
Rock on which it is built, that it turns
veral Mills. I could not obſerve any th
elſe worth Writing to you. The Th
Knights I ſpake of to you, were arriv'd
fore me, and giv'n all requiſite Orders
the Supper: So we eat together, and
the Night appear'd well advanced, bec
the Days are ſhort in this Seaſon, yet 't
not late: So that theſe Gentlemen,
ſhew'd me great Reſpect and Civility,
me how I would paſs the time? I pro
ſed to them the playing at *Ombre*, and
I would go halves with *Don Fernand de*
ledo. They accepted the offer: *Don*
nand de Cardonne ſaid, he had rather c
verſe with me than play. So the Three
thers began, and I for ſome time gave
ſelf over to the looking on them, w
great Pleaſure; for their way is quite
ferent from ours: They never utter
Word: I do not ſay, to complain,
this would be unworthy the *Spaniſh* Gra

but to demand a *gano*, or to cut high-
, or to ſhew that one may take ſome o-
er Advantage. In a Word, they ſeem to
Statues, or pieces of *German* Clock-
ork, never appearing tranſported with
her good or bad luck. Among other
iſcourſe which I had with *Don Frederic de*
rdonne, he told me, there were two things
ſervable in *Catalognia*, one of which is a
ountain of Salt, partly White as Snow,
d the other part clearer and more tra-
arent than Chryſtal; That there is Blue,
reen, Violet, Orange, and a thouſand dif-
rent Colours, which yet loſes its Tincture
hen wetted; it continually forms it ſelf,
d grows there; And though commonly
e places where Salt is to be found, are ſo
rren, that you ſee not ſo much as an
erb, yet there are here Pine-Trees of great
ight, and excellent Vineyards. When
e Sun darts its Rays on this Mountain,
looks as if it wholly conſiſted of the moſt
ecious Stones in the World; but the
ſt of it is, that it yields a good Re-
nue.

The other Particular he mention'd to
e, was of a Fountain, whoſe Water is
ry good, and of ſame Colour as Claret.
have never heard any thing of this, ſaid I
him, *but one of my Relations, who has been*

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in Catalonia, *has assured me there is a Fo*
tain near Balut, *whose Water is as others*
for Colour, and yet whatever you put ther
appears like Gold. I have seen it, Mad
continued *Don* Frederick, *and I remembe*
Man that was very covetous, and more fool
went thither every Day to put therein his
ver, hoping in time 'twould be chang'd
Gold; but he was so far from enriching hi
self that he was ruin'd; for some Peasa
more subtle and crafty than he, having p
ceiv'd what he did, stood watching a little
er, and the Stream of the Water would
and then bring some Pieces to them. If
return into France *by* Catalonia, added
you will see this Fountain. It is not that wh
can draw me thither, reply'd I, *but the de*
of passing by Montserrat, *wou'd make me*
dertake a longer Journey. It is situated,
he, *near* Barcelona, *and is a place of gr*
Devotion: It seems as if the Rock were sa
through the middle; the Church stands high
small and obscure. By the help of Fourse
and Ten Lamps of Silver, you perceive the
mage of the Virgin, which looks very dusk
and is held for miraculous. The Altar
Philip II. *Thirty Thousand Crowns; and h*
is every Day seen Pilgrims from all pa
of the World. This Holy Place abounds wi
Hermitages, inhabited by Persons of great D
voti

tion. *These are commonly Men of good Birth, who have not left the World till they have well* ed it, *and who appear much taken with the* weets *of their Retirements, though the place* e *dismal; and 'twould been impossible to have* ad *Access to it, had not a passage been cut* rough *the Rocks. Yet you find here several* greeable *Objects, a curious Prospect, various* prings, *Gardens well dress't by these good* Reli- ioses *own Hands, and every where a certain* ir *of Solitude and Devotion, which mightily* affects *those who come there. We have another famous place of Devotion,* added he, *and* at *is* Nuestra Senora del Pilar. *It is at* aragossa, *in a Chappel on a Pillar of Marble, where our Lady holds the Babe* Jesus *in* t *Arms. It is pretended, that the Virgin* ppear'd *on this same Pillar to St.* James, nd *the Image is here worship't with great Re-* rence. *It cannot be well observ'd, because it* nds *so high, and in a very dark place. So* at *without the* Flambeaux *it could not be* n *at all. Here are always Fifty Lamps* rning; *Gold and precious Stones shine here* all *sides, and the Pilgrims come here in* eat *Shoals. But yet,* says he, *I may truly say, in favour of* Saragossa *that 'tis one of* e *finest Towns you shall see. It is situated* ng *the* Ebre, *in a vast Field, is adorn'd* ith *great Buildings, Rich Churches, a state-*

ly Bridge, fine open places, and the most char ing Women in the World, who love the Frenc *and will omit nothing to oblige you to speak w of 'em, if you pass by there.* I told him, had already heard several things spoken them to their commendation. *But,* con nu'd I, *this Countrey is very barren, and Soldiers can hardly subsist in it. In eff* replied he, *whether the Air be bad, or th they want Necessaries, the* Flemmings *a* Germans *cannot live there; and if they not die there, 'tis because they run away. T* Spaniards *and* Neopolitans *are more pr than they to desert. These last pass thro* France, *to return into their Countrey; others Coast the* Pyrenees *along* Languedo *and enter* Castille *by* Navarre, *or* Bisca *This is a Course which the old Soldiers f not to steer; for the new-rais'd ones, they rish in* Catalognia, *being not accustom'd the to; and 'tis certain there's no place where W is more troublesome to the King of* Spain. *maintains his Forces here with great Char and the Advantage which the Enemy gains him is not small. And I very well know t are more sensible at* Madrid *for the small Loss in* Catalonia, *than they would be the greatest in* Flanders, *or* Millain, *or el where. But at present,* continues he, *we going to be more at our ease than we have be*

lei

being expected at Court, that the Peace will be lasting, because they talk much of a Marriage which will make a new Alliance; and the Marquiss de Los Balbares, *Plenipotentiary at* Nimiguen, *has receiv'd Orders to pass speedily to* France, *to demand of that King* Mademoiselle D' Orleans; *therefore it is not doubted but the Marriage will be concluded: But it is thought very strange, that* Don John *of* Austria *should consent to this Marriage. You will do me a singular pleasure,* said I, interrupting him, *if you would inform me of some Particularities touching this Prince: It it natural for to have a Curiosity in relation to persons of his Character; and when a body comes into a Court where one was never before, that I may not appear a Novice, I should have some previous Notices.* He answer'd me, 'Twould be a great satisfaction to him, if he could relate any thing might please me; And he began thus:

'You will not, perhaps, Madam, think it amiss, that I begin at the Original of things, and tell you, That this Prince was Son of one of the finest Women in *Spain*, named *Maria Calderona*: She was a Player, and the Duke *de Medina de las Torres* became disperately in love with her. This Gavalier had so many Advan-

'tages

'tages above others, that *Calderonna* lov'd
'him no leſs than ſhe was beloved by him.
'In the Heat of this Intrigue, *Philip* IV.
'ſaw her, and preferr'd her to one of the
'Queens Maids of Honour, and who was
'ſo griev'd at this Change of the King,
'whom ſhe really lov'd, and had a Son by,
'that ſhe retired from the World, and be-
'took her ſelf to *las del Calſas Reales*, where
'ſhe put on the *Religio's* Habit. As for
'*Calderonne*, her inclination lying wholly
'towards the Duke *de Medina*, ſhe would
'not hearken to the King, without the
'Duke would thereto conſent. She ſpake
'to him of it, and offered to withdraw ſe-
'cretly where he would; but the Duke
'fearing to incur the King's Diſpleaſure, an-
'ſwer'd her, He was reſolv'd to yield up to
'His Majeſty a Treaſure which he was not
'in a Capacity to contend for. She made
'him a Thouſand Reproaches for this.
'She call'd him, Traytor to his own Love,
'ingrateful towards his Miſtriſs: And
'moreover told him, That though he was
'ſo happy as that he could diſpoſe of his
'Heart as he pleaſed, yet ſhe could not do
'the ſame; and therefore he muſt continue
'to viſit her, or prepare to ſee her die with
'Deſpair. The Duke affected with ſo great
'a Paſſion, promiſed to feign a Journey to

'An-

Andalouſia, and to remain with her hid in a Cloſet. He effectually parted from the Court, and afterwards ſhut himſelf up (as it was agreed) whatever Riſque he ran by ſo imprudent a Conduct. The King, in the mean time, was very Amorous, and remain'd very well ſatisfi'd. She had, during this, *Don John D' Auſtria*, and the Reſemblance he had with the Duke, *de Medina de las Torres*, had made it be thought that he was his Son: But though the King had other Children, and particularly the Biſhop of *Malaga*, good Fortune decided in his Favour, and he has been only acknowledg'd.

'*Don John*'s Friends ſay, That 'twas by reaſon of the Exchange which had been made of the Son of *Calderona*, for the Son of Queen *Elizabeth*: And here's how they ſet forth this Change, which is a Story made on purpoſe to impoſe on the World, and which I believe has no Ground of Truth. They pretend, the King, being deſperately in love with this Player, ſhe became big with Child at the ſame time as the Queen; and ſeeing the King's Paſſion was ſo greatly towards her that ſhe might expect any thing, ſhe ſo ordered it, that ſhe made him promiſe her, That if the Queen had a Son, and ſhe

'like-

'likewiſe, he ſhould put hers in his pla
'*What will you loſe by this, Sir*, ſaid ſh
'*Will it not be your Son that will ſtill Rei*
'*only with this difference, that loving me,*
'*you ſay you do, you will love him likew*
'*the better.* She had Wit, and the Ki
'could deny her nothing. He conſente
'and in effect the buſineſs was manag
'with that Addreſs, that the Queen bei
'brought to Bed of a Son, and *Calderon*
'of another, the Exchange was made.
'that ſhould have Reign'd, and who bo
'the Name of *Baltazar*, died at the A
'of Fourteen Years. The King was to
''twas with over-heating himſelf at *T*
'*nis*; but the truth is, this Prince was ſu
'fered to keep bad Company, which pr
'cured him his Misfortunes. It is ſa
'likewiſe, That *Don Pedro d' Arragon*, h
'Governour, and Chief Gentleman of h
'Chamber, more contributed to this th
'any other, ſuffering him to bring into h
'Apartment a Woman he lov'd. After th
'he was taken with a violent Fever, an
'conceal'd the occaſion. The Phyſician
'who were ignorant of it, thought to ea
'him by frequent Bleedings, which put a
'end to what ſtrength he had: And b
'this Means they ended his Life. The Ki
'knowing, but too late, what had happe

'b

baniſht *Don Pedro* for not hindring this Exceſs, or for not having timely diſcover'd it.

'In the mean time *Don John* of *Auſtria*, who was brought up as the natural Son, chang'd not his Condition, though this ought to have been, had he been indeed the lawful Son; yet notwithſtanding this, his Creatures affirm he ſo exactly reſembles Queen *Elizabeth*, that ſhe needs no other Picture of her Likeneſs; And this Opinion fails not of gaining Belief with the People, who run violently after Novelties, and who ſo paſſionately lov'd this great Queen, that they bewail her ſtill as if ſhe was but now deceas'd. It is true, that if *Don John* of *Auſtria* would make his Advantage of the favourable Diſpoſitions of the People, he has met with ſeveral opportunities of extending his Fortune very far. But his only Aim is to ſerve the King, and to keep his Subjects in thoſe Sentiments of Fidelity they ought to have for him.

'To return to *Calderonna*; The King ſurpriz'd one day the Duke *de Medina* with her, and in the Exceſs of his Rage, he ran to him with his Poynard in his Hand: He was about to kill him, when this Woman placed her ſelf between, telling him,

'He

'He might ſtrike her if he would. Havin
'the moſt extream Paſſion for her, he cou
'not but pardon him, contenting himſe
'only with baniſhing him. But underſtand
'ing ſhe continu'd to love him, and write
'him, he ſtudied only how to get a ne
'Paſſion. When he had one ſtrong enoug
'not to apprehend the Charms of *Calde*
'*ronna*, he ſent Word to her to retire int
'a Monaſtery, as is cuſtomary when th
'King forſakes his Miſtriſs. She put it n
'off, writing a Letter to the Duke, to bi
'him adieu; And ſhe receiv'd the Veil of
'Religio's from the Hand of the Apoſto
'lick *Nuncio*, who became ſince *Innocent*
'It is very likely the King believ'd *Don Jo*
'*an* was his real Son, ſeeing he loved hi
'ſo dearly. One thing will appear to yo
'very ſingular, which is, that a King
'*Spain* having natural Sons owned by him
'they never enter *Madrid* during his Life
'So *Don Juan* was brought up at *Ocanna*
'which is ſome Leagues diſtant from it
'The King, his Father, came oft thither,
'and he made him come even to the Gate
'of the Town, where he went to meet him
'This Cuſtom comes, from that the Gran
'dees of *Spain* diſpute the Rank which
'theſe Princes would hold. *Don John*, be
'fore he went into *Catalonia*, remain'd com-

'monly

monly at *Buen Retiro*, which is a Royal Seat at one of the fartheſt parts of *Madrid*, a little without the Gate. And he ſhew'd himſelf ſo little, that he was never ſeen at any Publick Feaſt during the Life of the late King: But ſince, Times have chang'd, and his Fortunes ſtand on a different bottom.

'Whilſt the Queen, *Maria Ann* of *Auſtria*, Siſter to the Emperour, and the King's Mother, Govern'd *Spain*; and her Son was not yet of Age to hold the Reins of the State. She would have always *Don John* keep from the Court: And moreover, found her ſelf ſo capable of Governing, that ſhe had a mind to eaſe her Son for a long time of the Burden of Ruling. She was not troubl'd to ſee him ignorant of whatever might give a deſire of Reigning: But though ſhe brought the greateſt Pre-cautions, to hinder him from feeling he was under too ſtrict a Tutelage, and ſuffered no Perſons to come near him but thoſe ſhe was well aſſured of; yet this hindred not but ſome of the King's Faithful Servants hazarded themſelves, by giving him to underſtand what he might do for his Liberty. He follow'd the Advice was given him; and in fine, having taken Meaſures accordingly, he

'ſtole

'ſtole away one night, and went to *Buen-Retiro*. He as ſoon ſent from thence an Order to the Queen his Mother, not to ſtir out of the Palace.

'*Don Juan* is of a middle Stature, well ſhaped, Black and Lively Eyes, and a moſt Manly Countenance. He is Polite, Generous, and very Brave. He is ignorant of nothing befitting his Birth, being well-verſt in all Arts and Sciences. He writes and ſpeaks very well Five Languages, and underſtands yet more. He has for a long time ſtudied Judicial Aſtrology. There is no Inſtrument which he can not make, and uſe with the beſt Maſter. He works on all kind of Mechanicks, makes Arms, and paints finely. He took a great Pleaſure in the Mathematicks; but being charg'd with the Government of the State, he has been oblig'd to lay aſide all other Employments.

'He came to *Buen-Retiro* in the beginning of the Year 1677. and as ſoon as he was there, he ſent the Queen-Mother to *Toledo*, becauſe ſhe had declared againſt him, and hindred his return to the King. *Don Juan* had an extream Joy in receiving from the King's own Hand an Order to take Care of every thing, and to manage the Affairs of the Kingdom: And

'[illegible]

'twas not without occaſion he diſcharged himſelf on him, ſeeing he then was ignorant of the Art of Reigning. It was alledg'd for a Reaſon of his ſlow Education, That the King his Father was dying when he gave him Life: That when he came into the World they were fain to put him in a Box of Cotten, being ſo tender and ſmall that he could not be ſwadled: That he was brought up in the Arms, and on the Knees of the Ladies of the Palace, till he was Ten Years old, without putting his Foot once all this while on the Ground to walk: That in the Sequel the Queen his Mother, who was engaged by all the Ties of Natural Duty to preſerve this only Heir of the *Spaniſh* Branch, fearing to loſe him, dared not let him ſtudy, leſt by too great an Application he ſhould loſe his Health, which in truth was very unſound: And 'twas obſerv'd, that the great number of Women with whom the King always was, and who too ſharply reprehended him for his little Faults which he committed, had inſpired him with ſuch a great Averſion to them, that as ſoon as ever he had notice a Lady ſtaid for him in any place he was to paſs, he ſtole another way, or kept himſelf ſhut up all day in his Chamber

'The

'The Marchioness *de Luz Veles*, who wi
'his Governness, told me, she waited fo
'an opportunity full six Months to spea
'with him; and when Chance had brough
'them unavoidably to him, he took thei
'Requests from their Hands, but turn'd h
'Head another way, for fear he should se
'them. His Health is since so increased
'that his Marriage with the Arch-Dutche
'the Emperour's Daughter, having bee
'broke off by *Don Juan*, by reason 'tw
'the Queen-Mothers Project, he has desire
'to marry *Mademoiselle d' Orleans*. Th
'Circumstances of the Peace which a
'lately concluded at *Nimiguen*, made hi
'cast his Eyes towards this Princess, wit
'whose excellent Qualities, Madam, yo
'are better acquainted than I.

'It is hard to believe, that having Di
'positions so far from Gallantry, he shou
'become so suddenly and vehemently i
'love with the Queen, as he became on th
'only Rehearsal of her good Qualities, an
'at the sight of her Picture in Minatur
'which was shew'd him. He never lets
'go out of his Hand; he always holds
'to his Heart: He Dialogues with it
'prettily, as astonishes all the Courtier
'for he speaks a Language he never spok
'His Passion for the Princess furnishes hi
'wit

with a thousand Thoughts which he dare not entrust any body with. He thinks no body makes haste enough; and therefore sends fresh Gurriers every day to carry his Billets *doux*, and bring back News of her.

When you come to Madrid, added he, *you will hear, Madam, several Particulars which have without doubt hapned since I was there, and which will perhaps more satisfie your Curiosity than what I have related to you. I am very much oblig'd to you*, answer'd I, *for your Civilities; but do me the Favour to oblige me further, in giving me the true Character of the* Spaniards. *You know them, and I am perswaded nothing has escap'd your enquiries: You speaking to me without Passion and Interest, I may reckon my self sure of what you tell me. Why believe you, Madam*, replied he smiling, *that I shall speak to you more sincerely than another? There are Reasons which may render me suspected: They are my Masters; I must manage them: And if I be not Politick enough to do it, the Vexation of being constrained to obey them, would tempt me to entertain Notions in their Respect contrary to truth. However it be*, said I, interrupting him, *pray tell me what you know of them.*

The

The Spaniards, said he, *have always p*
for Fierce and Glorious: This Glory is m
with Gravity; and they carry it so far, t
one may call it an extravagant Pride. T
are Brave without being Rash; yet they
accused for not being Daring enough. T
are Cholerick, Revengeful, without shew
any Transport, Liberal without Ostentati
Sober in their Diet, very presumptuous in P
sperity, too Rampant in Adversity. They
dolize Women; they are so pre-possest in th
Favour, that they shew no Discretion in
Choice of their Wives. They are Patient
Excess, Obstinate, Idle, Singular, Philoso
sers; And as to the rest, Men of Hon
keeping their Words, though it cost 'em th
Lives. They have a great deal of Wit a
Vivacity, easily comprehend, explain themsel
in the same manner, and in few words. T
are Prudent, Jealous without measure, disi
rested, bad Oeconomists, Close, Superstitio
great Catholicks, at least in appearance. T
are good Poets, and write Verses with gr
Facility. They would be capable of No
Sciences, would they vouchsafe to apply th
selves thereto.

They have a Greatness of Soul, Eleva
Wit, Constancy, a Natural Seriousness, a
a Respect for Ladies, as is not seen elsewh
They have a Set-Behaviour, full of Affect

n, intoxicated with their own Merit, hardly
ver in this Particular doing Right to that of
bers. Their Bravery consists in standing Va-
iantly on the Defensive Part, without giving
Ground, and without dreading Danger; but
hey love not to seek it, which proceeds from
heir great Judgment. They discern Danger,
nd avoid it. Their greatest Defect, in my
Opinion, is the Passion of Revenge, and the
Means they use for this. Their Maxims here-
pon are absolutely opposite to Christianity and
Honour: When they have receiv'd an Affront,
hey make him be Assassinted who has offered
. They are not contented with this; for they
ause them to be Assassinated likewise whom
hey have offended, in the Apprehension of be-
g prevented, knowing well, that if they do
t kill, they shall be kill'd themselves. They
tend to justifie themselves herein, when they
y, That their Enemy having took the First
dvantage, they ought to secure themselves of
e Second: That should they fail herein, they
ould wrong their Reputation: That you must
t fight with a Man that has insulted over
, but put your self in a Condition to punish
im, without running half the Danger. It is
ue, that Impunity Authorises this Conduct:
r the Priviledge of Churches and Convents in
ain, is to give an assured Retreat to Crimi-
ls; And as near as they can, they commit

these

these Villanies hard by a Sanctuary, to be the leſs way to an Altar; which you ſee embraced by a Villain, with his Poynard red in his Hand, and be-ſmear'd with the Blood the Murther which he has committed.

As to their Perſons, they are very lean, little, fine ſhape, comely Head, good Faces, fine Eyes, well-ſet Teeth, yellow and duskiſh Complexion; they will have one walk ſlowly, commend big Legs, and a little Foot, Shooes without Heels, parting the Hair on both ſides, being ſtrait cut, and kept behind their Ears with a great Two-handed Hat, an Habit always Black, inſtead of a Shirt, Taffety Sleeves, black Tabby, a Sword of a ſtrange length with a black Freize Cloak over all this, very ſtrait Breeches, hanging Sleeves, and a Poynard. All this muſt ſo diſ-figure a Man, that him be otherwiſe never ſo well-ſhaped, that he ſeem to affect a Garb the moſt diſagreeable. And ones Eyes cannot with any Complacency accuſtom themſelves to this ſight.

Don Frederick would have continued his Diſcourſe, and I had ſo much pleaſure in hearing him, that I would not have interrupted him; but he broke off himſelf having obſerv'd that the Play was at an end; and conſidering that we were to go out early next Morning, he thought I muſt

e desirous of retiring; he therefore, with
he other Gentlemen, bad me good night.
rose in effect very soon next Morning,
ecause 'twas a great Journey to *Birbiesca*,
here we intended to lie. We follow'd
he River to avoid the Mountains, and
ast at *Oron*, a great River, which falls in-
o the *Ebre*. We a while after entred in-
o so strait a Way, that our Litters could
arce pass. We ascended along a very
rait Coast to *Pancorvo*, whose Castle I saw
anding on a rais'd Ground, not far di-
ant. We traverst a great Plain; and this
as a Novelty to us, to see an even Coun-
cy. This here is surrounded with seve-
l Mountains, which seem linkt together
a Chain, and especially those of *Occa*.
e must again pass over a little River be-
re we can come to *Birbiesca*. This is on-
a Borough, which has nothing remarka-
e but its Colledge, and some few plea-
nt Gardens along the Water. But I may
y, we came thither in worse Weather
an any we had yet: I was so tired, that
soon as I was arriv'd I went to Bed: So
t I saw not *Don Fernand de Toledo*, and
other Gentlemen, till the next Day, at
stel de Peones. But I should tell you how
e is serv'd in these Inns, they being all a-
: When you come into one of them,

wearied and tired, roasted by the heat of the Sun, or frozen by the Snows (for there is seldom any Temperament between the Two Extreams), you see neither Pot on the Fire, nor Plates wash'd: You enter into the Stable, and from thence to your Chamber. This Stable is ordinarily full of Mules and Muletteers, who make use of the Mule's Saddles for Pillows in the night, and in the day-time they serve 'em for Tables. They eat very friendly with the Mules, and are very good Company together.

The Stair-Case by which you go up is very strait, and does rather resemble a Story Ladder. *La Sennoro de la Casa* receives you with her Gown tuckt up, and her dangling Sleeves: She takes time to put on her *Sunday*-Cloathes, whilst you get out of your Litter: And she never omits this; for they are all very Poor and Vain-Glorious.

You are shewed a Chamber, whose Walls are White enough, hung with a Thousand little scurvy Pictures of Saints; the Beds are without Curtains, the Coverings of Cotton, the Sheets as large as Napkins, and the Napkins like Pocket-Handkerchiefs; and you must be in some considerable Town to find Four or Five of them

them; for in other Places there are none, no more than there are Forks. They have only a Cup in the Houſe; and if the Mule-Drivers get firſt hold of it, which commonly happens, if they pleaſe, (for they are ſerv'd with more Reſpect than thoſe whom they bring) you muſt ſtay patiently till they have done with it, or drink out of an Earthen Pitcher. It is impoſſible to warm one at the Kitchin-Fire, without being choaked; for they have no Chimneys, and 'tis the ſame in all the Houſes on the Road. There is an Hole made in the top of the Ceiling, and the Smoak goes out thence. The Fire is in the midſt of the Kitchin. They put what you would have roaſted on Tiles, and when 'tis well gril'd on one ſide, they turn the other. When 'tis groſs Meat, they faſten it to a ſtring, and ſo let it hang on the Fire, and turn it with their Hands; ſo that the Smoak makes it ſo black, that 'twould turn ones Stomach to look on it.

I think there cannot be a better Repreſentation of Hell than theſe ſort of Kitchins, and the Perſons in them; for not to ſpeak of this Horrible Smoak, which blinds and choaks one, they are a Dozen of Men, and as many Women, blacker than Devils, dirty, and ſtinking, like Swine, and clad like

Beggars. There are always ſome of 'em impudently grating on a ſorry Guitar, and ſinging like a Cat a roaſting. The Women have all of 'em their Hair about their Ears, and you would take 'em for *Bedlamites*. They have Glaſs Necklaces, which hang twiſted about their Necks, like Ropes of Onions, but however ſerve to cover the naſtineſs of their Skin.

They are as great Thieves as any are in Jayls, and they are urgent to ſerve you only to have an opportunity to ſteal ſomething of you, though it be but a Pin.

Before all things, the Miſtriſs of the Houſe brings you her little Children, who are bare-headed in the midſt of Winter, though but of a Day old. She makes 'em touch your Cloathes; ſhe rubs their Eyes with them, their Cheeks, Throat and Hands. This ſeems as if one was become a Relick, and could heal all Diſeaſes. Theſe Ceremonies over, you are askt if you will eat any thing; and though at Mid-night, you muſt ſend to the Butchery, the Market, the Tavern, the Bakers; in fine, to all parts of the Town, to gather wherewith to make a ſorry Meal. For though the Mutton here be very tender, their way of frying it with Oyl, is not to every bodies Reliſh. Here are great ſtore of Partridges,

d

and thoſe very large: they are not very fat, but dry; and to make 'em drier, they roaſt 'em to a Coal.

The Pigeons here are excellent, and in ſeveral places here is good Fiſh, eſpecially Beſſugoſſes, which have the taſte of a Trout, and of which they make Paſties, which would be good, were they not ſtuff'd with Garlick, Saffron and Pepper.

Their Bread is white enough, and ſo ſweet, that one would think it made up with Sugar; but it is ill wrought, and ſo little baked, that it is as heavy as Lead in the Stomach. It has the ſhape of a flat Cake, and is not much thicker than one's Finger. The Wine is good, and Fruits in their ſeaſon, eſpecially Grapes, which are very large, and of delicate taſte. You may reckon your ſelf certain of a good Deſart. You have Sallads here of ſuch good Lettice as the World cannot afford better.

Do not think (Dear Couſin) 'tis ſufficient to ſay, Go fetch ſuch things, to have them; for not very ſeldom you can meet with nothing. But ſuppoſing you find what you would have, you muſt give out your Money before-hand: So that your Meat is paid for before you have begun to eat it; for the Maſter of the Inn is only allowed to lodge you. They alledge for a Reaſon,

That it is not juſt one onely Perſon ſhould go away with all the profit from Travellers, it being better the Money ſhould be diſperſed.

You enter not any Inn to dine, but carry your Proviſion with you, and ſtop at the Bank of ſome River, where the Mule-Drivers bate their Mules. And this is with Oats or Barley, with chopt Straw, which they carry with them in great Sacks; for as to Hay they give 'em none. It is not allow'd a Woman to tarry above Two Days in an Inn on the Road, unleſs ſhe can offer good Reaſons. And here's enough in relation to Inns, and the manner of your Treatment therein.

After Supper theſe Gentlemen play'd at *Hombre*, and I not being ſtrong enough to play againſt them, I went ſhares with *Don Frederick de Cardonne*, and *Don Fernando* drew near the fire-ſide to me. He told me, He could have wiſht my time would permit me to paſs by *Vailladolid*; That it is the moſt pleaſant Town of *Old Caſtille*, it having been for a great while the Manſion of the Kings of *Spain*; and that they have a Palace there fit for them: That as to him, he had Relations there would be infinitely pleaſed to entertain me, and would ſhew

shew me the *Dominicans* Church, which the Dukes of *Lerma* have founded: That it was very Rich, and the Portal of singular Beauty, by means of the Figures, and Embossed Work, which enrich it: That in the Colledge of the same Convent the *French* see there, with great satisfaction, all the Walls full of *Flower de Luces*, it being said, a Bishop who depended on the King of *France*, had been at the Charge of Painting them. He added, They would have carried me to the *Religioses* of St. *Claire*, to shew me in the Choire of their Church, the Tomb of a *Castillan* Knight, whence 'tis said, issues out Accents and Groans every time any of his Family are near their Deaths. I smiled at this, as being doubtful of the Truth of such kind of Relations. *You give not credit to what I say*, continued he, *neither would I engage for the Truth of it, though all the Countrey thereabouts are so fully perswaded of it, that you would be suspected for an Heretick should you question it. But it is certain there is a Bell in* Arragon, *in a small Town call'd* Villilla, *on the* Ebre, *which is about Fifty Foot compass, and it happens sometimes to sound of it self, it being not perceiveable to be agitated by any Winds or Earthquakes: In a word, by no visible thing. It first Tolls, and afterwards, by Intervals, rings out, as well in*

the Day as the Night. When it is heard, it is not doubted but it denounces ſome ſad Accident: Which is what hapned in 1601. *on* Thurſday *the* 13*th of* June, *till* Saturday *the* 15*th of the ſame Month: It ceaſed then to Ring, but it began again on* Corpus Chriſti, *when they were on the point of making the Proceſſion. It was heard likewiſe when Alphonſus the Fifth, King of* Arragon, *went into* Italy *to take poſſeſſion of the Kingdom of* Naples. *It was heard at the Death of* Charles V. *It denoted the departure of Don* Sebaſtion, *King of* Portugal, *for* Africk, *the Extremity of King* Philip II. *and the deceaſe of his laſt Wife Queen* Ann. *You would have me to believe you,* Don Fernand, ſaid I, *Perhaps I ſhall ſeem too obſtinate in ſtanding out all this while, but you will agree that are Matters one may lawfully doubt of. Nay, Madam,* replied he, with a pleaſant Air, *I tell you nothing but what I can have a Thouſand Witneſſes to juſtifie; but perhaps you will ſooner believe* Don Eſteve de Carvajal *in a thing as extraordinary in his Countrey.* He at the ſame time call'd to him, demanding of him, Whether 'twere not true, That there is in the Convent of *Cordova* a Clock which fails not to Ring every time a Religious is to die? So that the Time is known to a Day. *Don Eſteve* confirm'd what

what *Don Fernand* ſaid: And though I remain'd not abſolutely convinc'd, yet I made a ſhew as if I was.

You paſs ſo quickly through Old Caſtille, continued Don Fernand, *that you will not have time to ſee what's moſt remarkable. The Picture of the Bleſſed Virgin is talkt of far and near, which was found miraculouſly ſtampt on a Rock. It belongs to the* Religious Auguſtines d' Avila, *and ſeveral Perſons go there out of Devotion; but one has no leſs Curioſity to ſee certain Mines of Salt, which are near there, in a Village call'd* Mengraville: *You deſcend above Two Hundred Steps under Ground, and then enter into a vaſt Cavern form'd by Nature, whoſe Top, or Roof, is upheld by one onely Pillar of* Chryſtalin Salt, *of aſtoniſhing Largeneſs and Colour. Near this place, in the Town of* Soria, *you ſee a great Bridge without a River, and a great River without a Bridge, the River being forc'd out of its place by an Earthquake.*

But if you go as far as Medina del Campo, added he, *I am ſure the Inhabitants will give you a welcome Entrance, only becauſe you are of the* French *Nation, whom they much affect, to diſtinguiſh themſelves hereby from the Sentiments of the other* Caſtilians. *Their Town is ſo priviledg'd, that the King of* Spain *has not the power to create any Officers, nor the*

Pope to confer Benefices. This Right belongs to the Townſmen, and they often fall together by the Ears, in the chuſing of their Magiſtrates and Eccleſiaſticks.

One of the Rarities of this Countrey is the Aquaduct *of* Segovia, *which is five Leagues in length; it has above two hundred Arches of extraordinary heighth, though in ſeveral places there are two ſtanding on one another; and 'tis all built on Free Stone, there having been no Mortar, or any Cement to joyn them. This is lookt on as one of the* Romans *Works, or at leaſt as worthy to be ſo. The River which is at the end of the Town ſurrounds the Caſtle and ſerves it for a Ditch: It is built on a Rock. Among ſeveral things remarkable, you ſee the Effigies of the Kings of* Spain, *who have Reign'd for ſeveral years: And there is in Town but* Segovia *and* Seville *where Money is Coyned, and the pieces of Eight which are made at the former of theſe places are held to be the beſt; and this is by means of the River which turns certain Mills that ſtamp the Money. There are likewiſe moſt curious Walks along a Meadow planted with Elm Trees, whoſe Leaves are ſo thick and large, that the greateſt heat of the Sun cannot pierce them. I want my Curioſity,* ſaid I to him, *for all things which deſerve it; but I at preſent want Time to ſee them: However, I ſhould be ve very glad of*

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arrive timely at Burgos, to view the Town. Which is to ſay, Madam, replied Don Fernand, *we muſt loſe your Company, and let you retire.*

He gave notice thereof to the other Gentlemen, who gave over their Play, and we thus ſeparated.

I roſe this Morning before Day, and I end this Letter at *Burgos*, where I now arrived. Thus, Dear Couſin, I ſhall ſend you nothing of this Day, but ſhall take the firſt occaſion to acquaint you with what befalls me.

From Burgos,
this 27th of
Feb. 1679.

LET-

LETTER. IV.

WE could ſenſibly perceive in arriving at *Burgos*, that this Town is colder than any of thoſe we paſt; and 'tis likewiſe ſaid, you have none of thoſe exceſſive Heats which are intollerable in other parts of *Spain*. The Town ſtands where you deſcend the Mountain, and reaches to the Plain as far as the River, which waſhes the Foot of the Wall. The Streets are very ſtrait and uneven: The Caſtle is not great, but very ſtrong, and is ſeen on the Top of the Mountain: A little lower is the Triumphant Arch of *Fernando Gonſales*, which the Curious do much admire. This Town was the firſt that was conquer'd from the *Mores*; and the Kings of *Spain* have long reſided here: 'tis the Capital of *Old Caſtille*: It holds the Firſt Rank in the Two States of the Two *Caſtiles*, although *Toledo* diſputes it with her. You ſee her fine Buildings; And *Velaſco*'s Palace is very ſtately. Here are in all the broad Streets and ſpacious places, Fountains, with Statues, ſome of which are good Pieces; but the fineſt ſight is the

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Cathedral, which is ſo large, that Maſs is ſaid in Five ſeveral places of it, without any diſturbance to each other. The Architecture is ſo exquiſitely wrought, that it may paſs among the *Gothick* Buildings for a Maſter-piece of Art: And this is ſo much the more remarkable, in that they build very ſorrily in *Spain*: In ſome places this is through Poverty, and in others want of Stone and Lime. I am told, that even at *Madrid* you ſee Houſes of Earth, and the fineſt are made with Brick, cemented with the ſame, for want of Lime. To paſs from the Town to the Suburbs of *Bega*, you go over three Stone Bridges; the Gate which anſwers that of *Santa Maria*, ſtands high, with the Image of the Virgin upon it: This Suburb contains the greateſt part of the Convents and Hoſpitals: There is a great one founded by *Philip* II. to receive the Pilgrims which go to St. *James*, and which entertains them for a Day. The Abbey of *Mille Flores*, whoſe Building is very ſtately, is not far diſtant. You ſee here in this Suburb ſeveral Gardens which are watered with Fountains and pleaſant Springs: The River ſerves for a Channel, and you find in a great Park incloſed with Walls, pleaſant Walks at all times of the Year.

I would

I would have ſeen the Crucifix in t
Auguſtines Convent; it is placed in
Chappel of the Cloyſter, large and d
enough; ſo that you could hardly diſc
it, were it not for the Lamps, which
continually burning, they'r above an Hu
dred; ſome are of Gold, and others
Silver, of ſo extraordinary a ſize, that th
cover all the Vault of this Chappel: the
are ſixty Silver Candleſticks of a leng
exceeding the talleſt Man, and ſo heavy th
two Men cannot lift 'em. They ſtand
the Ground on both ſides of the Alta
thoſe which are upon it are of Ma
Gold. You ſee between 'em two Croſ
of the ſame, ſet out with Precious Ston
and Crowns hanging over the Altar,
dorn'd with Pearls and Diamonds of gre
Luſtre. The Chappel is hung with Ta
ſtry, wrought with Gold; it is ſo lad
with Rich Gifts, that there's hardly roo
to put 'em in; ſo that part of 'em are ke
in the Treaſury.

The Holy Crucifix ſtands on the Alta
near the natural bigneſs, it is covered wi
three Curtains one on another, all embro
dered with Pearls and Diamonds: Wh
they open them, which is not do
without great Geremony, and for Perſo
of Quality, ſeveral Bells are rung, eve
o

ne falls on his Knees; And it muſt be anted, that this place and ſight ſtrikes ne with an Awful Regard. The Crucifix of Carv'd Work, and cannot be better ade; its Carnation is very natural; it is overed from the Breaſts to the Feet with a ne Linnen, in ſeveral Foulds or Pleats, which makes it look like a looſe Jerkin, which, in my Opinion, is not over-agreeable.

It is commonly held, that *Nicodemus* made it; but thoſe who are for making every thing Miraculous, will have it brought down from Heaven, they know not how nor when. I was told, certain Monks of this Town had once ſtole it, and convey'd it away; but it took a convenient time to give 'em the ſlip, and was found the next Morning in the Chappel in its uſual place. Theſe Honeſt People being enraged, that it ſhould ſerve 'em ſuch a Trick, muſtered up their Forces, and violently laid Hands on it the ſecond time, but to as little purpoſe; for 'twould by no means ſtay with 'em: However, it works Miracles, and is one of the Chief Objects of Devotion in *Spain*: The *Religious* tell you, it ſweats every *Friday*.

I was going into my Inn, when we ſaw the *Sieur de Cardonne's Valet de Chambre*, run-

running as fast as he could after us. He w booted, and three Friers scowring aft him. I was over-rash in my Judgment for I could not but think he had stole som thing in this Rich Chappel, and was take in the Fact; but his Master, who was wit me, having demanded of him, What p him on such full speed? He answer'd, H went into the Chappel of the Holy Cruc fix with his Spurs on, and the Fryers ha kept him in custody, to get Money of him but that he was gotten out of their Clut ches, but they were now upon the Hun for him. They make it a Forfeit, as we as others, for a Man to go with Spurs int these Holy Places.

The Town is not very great; it is ador ned with a spacious Place; Here are Hig Pillars which bear up very fine Lodgings: The Bull-Feasts are kept here; for the Peo ple are much delighted with this sort o Divertisement. There is also a very well-built Bridge, long and large. The Rive which passes under it, bathes a Meadow, on the Bank of which you see Allies o Trees, which form a most delicious Walk. Trade was heretofore considerable, but it is of late much diminisht. The best *Castil-lan* is here spoken, and the Men are natu rally Soldiers; so that when the King has need

ceed of them, he finds here great numbers, and better Men than elſewhere.

After Supper our Company ſet to play, as heretofore: *Don Sancho Sarmiente* was for yielding his place to any one, pretending 'twas his Right to entertain me this Evening. I knew he had lately return'd from *Sicily:* I askt him, Whether he had been one of thoſe who had help'd to chaſtize thoſe Rebellious People? *Alas, Madam,* ſaid he, *the Marquiſs* de Las Navas *was ſufficient to puniſh them beyond what their Crime deſerv'd: I was at* Naples, *in the Deſign to paſs into* Flanders, *where I have Relations of the ſame Name. The Marquiſs* de Los Veles, *Vice-Roy of* Naples, *engaged me to leave my firſt project, and embark my ſelf with the Marquiſs* de Las Navas, *whom the King ſent into* Sicily. *We ſet Sail in two Veſſels of* Majorca, *and Arrived at* Meſſina *the ſixth of* January. *Having ſent no notice of his coming, and no body expecting it, he was not receiv'd with the Honours paid commonly to the Vice-Roys: But in truth, his Intentions were ſo cruel againſt theſe poor people, that his Entrance ſhould have been made in Tears.*

Scarcely was he Arriv'd, but he clapt up the Two Sheriffs in Priſon, named Vicenzo Luffo, *and* Don Diego; *He put* Spaniards

in

in their places: He rigorously aboliſht the Colledge of Knights of the Star, and began to execute the Orders which Gonziga *had long receiv'd, and which he had eluded through Favour or Weakneſs. He immediately publiſht an Order, by which the King changed the Form of Government of* Meſſina, *deprived the Town of its Revenues, forbad its bearing for the future the Glorious Title of* Exemplary, *diſſolv'd the Senate, and put into the place of ſix Sheriffs, ſix Officers, two which ſhould be* Spaniards: *That theſe Officers ſhould not for the future appear in publick with their Formalities: That they ſhould no more be preceded by Drums and Trumpets, ride no more together in a Coach with Six Horſes, as they were wont: That they ſhould ſit henceforward on a plain Bench; ſhould have no more Incenſe offered 'em in the Churches, cloath'd after the* Spaniſh *Faſhion: ſhould aſſemble on publick Affairs in a Chamber of the Vice-Roy's Palace, and have no longer any Juriſdiction on the* Champain Court.

Every one was ſeized with ſuch Conſternation, as if he had been Thunder-ſtruck; their ſorrow was much increaſed on the Fifth of the ſame Month, when the Camp Maſter General went to the Town-Houſe, and ſeiz'd all their Charters, and Original Copies

their Priviledges, and made 'em be burnt publickly by the Hands of the common Hang-man. The Prince de Condro was afterwards apprehended, to the great grief of his Family, but particularly the Princeſs Eleonora, his Siſter, whoſe Tears were not ſhed alone. This Princeſs is not above Eighteen; her Beauty and Wit are Miraculous, which aſtoniſh thoſe about her. Don Sanchos Eyes grew Red at the remembrance of this Princeſs, and I plainly perceiv'd Pity had not all the ſhare in what he ſaid. Yet he continued on his Diſcourſe to me of *Meſſina*.

The Vice-Roy, added he, publiſht an Order, by which all the Citizens were enjoyn'd, under penalty of Ten Years Impriſonment, and Five Thouſand Crowns Fine, to bring their Arms into his Palace. He at the ſame time cauſe'd the great Bell in the Town-Houſe to be taken down, and beaten to pieces in his ſight. He ordered all the Bells in the Cathedral to be melted, to make a Statue of the King of Spain: And the Prince of Condro's Children were taken into Cuſtody. But their Fear increaſed, when the Vice-Roy ordered D. Vincenzo Zuffo's Head to be cut off. This Example of Severity Alarum'd all the People; and what appear'd moſt terrible, was, That the late Troubles, ſome Families of Meſſina having withdrawn themſelves into ſeveral

ral parts, the Marquiſs de Liche, the Spani
Embaſſador at Rome, adviſed them, as
Friend, to return into their own Countrey,
ſuring them all was quiet, and that a Gene
Pardon was already publiſht; and for th
greater Aſſurance, gave them Paſsports. Th
poor people (who had not taken up Arms,
being nat of the number of the Revolte
knowing their Innocency, could never have im
gin'd they ſhould have been treated as Crim
nals) return'd to Meſſina; Where they ha
ſcarcely landed, but the Joy they had of ſee
themſelves in their Native Countrey, and in t
midſt of their Friends, was ſadly diſturb'
when they were ſeized on, and the ne
Morning, without any Quarter, or regard
Sex or Age, by the Vice-Roy's Order, a
hang'd. He afterwards ſent to demoliſh th
great Tower of Palermo; and the principa
Citizens of it, remonſtrating againſt the exce
ſive Impoſitions on Corn, Silks, and other Com
modities, the Marquiſs de Las Navas ſent the
all to the Gallies, without being moved by th
Tears of their Wives, and the need ſo ma
poor Children might have of their Fa
thers.

I muſt acknowledge, continued Don San
cho, that my Nature is ſo averſe to the Rigor
every day exercis'd on theſe poor people, that
could not for all the World remain any longe

Meſſina. *The Marquiſs* de Las Navas
s for ſending to Madrid, *to inform the*
ng of what he had done. I intreated him
harge me with this Commiſſion; and in ef-
he conſented, and gave me his Letters,
ich I have delivered to the King at Madrid,
d at the ſame time my Interceſſions for the
ince de Condro. *And I preſume my good*
ces will not be wholly uſeleſs to him. I
perſwaded, ſaid I to him, *this was the*
cipal Motive of your Journey: I am no
ng body, but methinks you are greatly con-
d for the Intereſts of this Family. It's
, Madam, continued he, *the Injuſtice*
this Unfortunate Prince does ſenſibly af-
me. Were he not Brother to the Princeſs
onora, ſaid I to him, *perhaps you would*
ſo much lay it to heart. But no more of
: I perceive this Remembrance afflicts you.
let me rather hear from you what is moſt
arkable in your Countrey. Ah! Madam,
d he, *you inſult over me; for you muſt*
s know that Galicia *is ſo poor and mean*
untrey, that there's no place for bragging;
but that the Town of St. James de Com-
ella is conſiderable enough; it is the Capi-
f the Province, and ſcarce one in Spain
s ſuperiour to it in Riches and Greatneſs.
Archbiſhoprick is worth Seventy Thouſand
ns a year, and the Chapter has as much.

It

It ſtands on an agreeable Plain, ſurrounded with little Hills of moderate height; and it ſeems as if Nature had placed them there to defend the Town from thoſe deadly Blaſts which ariſe from other Mountains. Here is a Univerſity, fine Palaces, ſtately Churches, publick places, and an Hoſpital, one of the moſt conſiderable, and beſt ſerv'd in Europe. *It conſiſts of two Courts of extraordinary greatneſs, with Fountains in the midſt: Several Knights of St.* James *live in this Town and the* Metropolis, *which is dedicated to this Saint, keeps his Body. It is extream ſtately, and prodigiouſly rich: It is pretended you hear a kind of clattering at his Tomb, as if Arms were ſtruck one againſt another. And this noiſe is only heard when the* Spaniards *are to undergo any great Loſs. His Figure is repreſented on the Altar, and the Pilgrims thrice kiſs it, and put their Hats on his Head; for this is the chief part of the Ceremony. They have alſo another very ſingular one; they aſcend the top of the Church which is covered with great flat Stones. In this place ſtands a Croſs of Iron, whereon the Pilgrims ever faſten ſome Rag, or Scrap of what they wear. They paſs under this Croſs by ſo ſtrait a paſſage, that they are forced to crawl on their Bellies through it; and thoſe who are not ſlender, are in danger of be-*

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burſten. *And there have been ſome ſo ri-*
culous and ſuperſtitious, that having omit-
to do this, they have expreſly return'd back
gain three or four hundred Leagues; for
ſee here Pilgrims of all Nations. Here is
French *Chappel, of which great Care is*
ken. *It is ſaid, the Kings of* France *have*
n always great Benefactors to it. The
urch which is under ground is a better than
t above; there are ſtately Tombs, and
itaphs of great Antiquity, which exerciſe
Wits of Travellers. The Archiepiſcopal
lace is a vaſt Pile, and its Antiquity adds
its Beauty, inſtead of diminiſhing it. A
n of my Acquaintance, a great Searcher
Etymologies, aſſured me the Town of
ompoſtella *was ſo called, becauſe St.* James
to ſuffer Martyrdom in the place where
ſhould ſee a Star appear at Campo Stella.
is true, continued he, *that ſome people*
end it to be thus; but the peoples Credu-
and Superſtition carries 'em further; for
are ſhew'd at Padron, *near* Compoſtella,
ollow Stone; And it is pretended this was
little Boat in which St. James *Arriv'd,*
he had paſt ſo many Seas in it, which be-
of Stone, muſt have, without a ſignal
acle, ſunk to the bottom. *I ſuppoſe,* ſaid
him, *you believe this to be moſt true.* He
led, and continued his Diſcourſe. *I*

can-

cannot but give you the Description of our Militia: *They are called together every year in the Month of* October, *and all the Young Men, from the Age of Fifteen, are oblig'd to march; For should it happen that a Father, or any other Relation should conceal his Son or Kinsman, and those who are Officers should come to know it, they would condemn him who has so offended, to perpetual Imprisonment. There have been some Examples of this, but they are rare; for the Peasants are so infinitely pleas'd to see themselves Arm'd, and treated as* Cavalieros & de nobles Soldados del Rey, *that they would not for any consideration be wanting to shew themselves on this occasion. You shall seldom see in an whole Regiment any Soldier that has more Shirts than that on his Back; and the Stuff they wear seems for its Courseness to be made of Pack-thread: their Shooes are made of Cord: they wear no Stockings, yet every Man has his Peacock, or Dunghill Cock's Feather in his Cap, which is tied up behind, with a Rag tied about his Neck in form of a Ruff; their Sword oftentimes hangs by their side tied with a bit of Cord, and ordinary without a Scabbard: The rest of their Arms is seldom in better Order: And in this Equipage they march gravely to* Tuy, *where is the General Rendezvouz, it being a Frontier place to* Portugal. *There are three which lie*

lie thus, the above-mention'd Cindud Rodrigo, and Badajoz, but Tuy is the best garded, because it is over against Valentia, a considerable Town belonging to the King of Portugal, and which has been carefully fortifi'd. These two Towns are so near, that their Cannon will reach each other, and if the Portugaises have omitted nothing to put Valentia out of danger of being insulted over, the Spaniards pretend Tuy is in as good a condition to defend it self. It stands on an Hill, whose lower part is wash'd by the River Minhio; it has good Ramparts, strong Walls, and good store of Artillery. It is here I say where these our Champions bid defiance to the King's Enemies, and in a strutting bravery declare they do not fear 'em. Perhaps something of this may happen in time, for here are form'd as good Troops as in any other part of Spain. However, this is a great loss to the Kingdom, the whole Youth being thus taken up: for the Lands, for the most part lye untill'd, and on the side of St. James de Compostella, you wou'd think you saw a Wilderness; on that of the Ocean, the Country being better and more peopled, yields greater profit and all things necessary and convenient, as Oranges, Lemmons and Pomgranats, several sorts of Fruits, and excellent Fish, especially Pilchards, more

delicate than those which come from Royan *to* Bordeaux.

One of the most remarkable things, in my mind, in this Kingdom is the Town of Dorenſe, *one part of which always enjoys the Sweetneſs of the Spring, and the Fruits of Autumn, by reaſon of ſeveral Springs of boiling Water which warm the Air by their Exhalations; whilſt the other part of this ſame Town ſuffers the rigors of the longeſt Winters, ſtanding as it does at the foot of a very cold Mountain; ſo that you find in the ſpace of one only ſeaſon, all thoſe which compoſe the courſe of the Year.*

You ſay nothing, replied I to him, *of the marvailous Fountain, call'd* Louzano. *Who have told you of it, Madam?* anſwer'd he, *Perſons that have ſeen it,* added I. *You have been then told,* continu'd he, *that on the top of the Mountain of* Cerbret *you find this Fountain at the ſource of the River* Lours, *which has its flux and reflux as the Sea, tho' it be at twenty Leagues diſtance from it; that the greater the Heat are, the more Water it caſts; that this Water is ſometimes cold as Ice, and ſometimes as hot as if it boil'd, there being no natural cauſe to be giv'n for it. You learn me Particulars I was ignorant of,* ſaid I to him, *and this is doing me a great pleaſure, ſ*

want not for curiosity in relation to things uncommon. I wish, replied he, *'twas not late, I wou'd give you an account of several Rarities in* Spain, *and which perhaps you wou'd gladly learn. I leave you for to Night,* said I to him, *but I hope before we come to* Madrid, *we shall have an opportunity of discoursing of them.* He very civilly made me a Promise; and the Play being ended, we bad one another good night.

When I wou'd go to rest, I was led into a Gallery full of Beds, as you see in Hospitals. I said this was ridiculous, and that needing only four, what occasion was there for shewing me forty, and to put me into such an open place to serve me? I was answer'd, this was the best place in the House, and I must take up with it. I caus'd my Bed to be made, when scarce was I laid down, but somebody knockt softly at my Dore; my Women opened it, and remained much surpriz'd to see the Master and Mistris followed by a dozen of sorry creatures, and so cloath'd that they were half naked. I drew my Curtain at the noise they made and opened more mine eyes at the sight of this noble company. The Mistris drew near to me, and told

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me these were honest Travellers, who were coming into the Beds which remained empty. How, lye here? said I, I believe you have lost your senses: I shou'd have lost 'em indeed, replied she, shou'd I let so many Beds stand empty. Either, Madam, you must pay for them, or these honest Gentlemen must lye in them. I cannot express my Rage to you; I was in the mind to send for Don *Fernand* and my Knights, who would have sooner made 'em pass thro' the Windows than thro' the Dores. But I considered this cou'd not be done without some disturbance, and therefore I came to terms; and agreed to pay 20 *d.* for each Bed. They are hardly dearer at *Fontainbleau* when the Court is there. These illustrious *Dons*, or, to speak better, *Tatterdemalions*, who had the insolence to come into my Room, immediately withdrew, having made me several profound Reverences.

The next Morning I thought to have burst with laughter, tho' 'twas at my cost, when I discovered mine Hostess trick to ruin me. For you must know in the first place, that these pretended Travellers were their Neighbours, and that they are accustomed to this stra-

ge

em, when they see strangers: but when I wou'd have reckoned the Beds to pay for 'em, they were rowled all of 'em into the midst of the Gallery. There were divers wretched Troughs of Straw pull'd out, which were hardly good enough to entertain Dogs, yet I must pay for each 20 *d.* Four *Pistoles* put an end to our dispute. I was not able to put my self in a passion, such singularity did I find in this management. I wou'd not recount this little accident to you, did it not serve to give you some inlight into the Humour of this Nation.

We set out from *Burgos* very late, the Weather was so bad, and there had fain in the Night such great quantity of Rain, that I tarri'd there as long as I cou'd, in expectation of its ceasing. In fine, I came to a resolution, and ascended my Litter. I had not gotten far from the Town, but I repented of my leaving it. No Track cou'd be seen, especially in a very high steep Mountain, over which we must necessarily pass. One of our Mule-drivers, who went before, struck too far on the edge of this Mountain, so that he fell with his Mule into a kind of Precipice, where he broke his Head, and put his Arm out of joynt.

This being the famous *Philip de St. Sebaſtian*, the moſt intelligent of all his Profeſſion, and who commonly carries perſons of Quality to *Madrid*; he was therefore much bemoaned, and we remain'd a great while before we cou'd hale him out from the ſcurvy place where he had fal'n: *Don Fernand* was ſo compaſſionate as to let him have his Litter. The Night came ſpeedily on us, and we cou'd have comforted ourſelves, cou'd we have return'd to *Burgos*, but it was impoſſible, the Ways were no leſs covered with Snow on that ſide, than all the reſt; ſo that we put in at *Madrigaleſco*, which has not above a dozen Houſes, and I may ſay we were beſieg'd without having any Enemies. This Adventure gave us ſome diſturbance, tho' we had brought Proviſions with us for ſeveral days. The beſt Houſe of the Town was half uncovered; and I was ſcarce lodged there, when a venerable old Man askt for me on the part of a Lady who was juſt arriv'd. He made me a Compliment, and told me ſhe was inform'd this was the only place where there was any tolerable entertainment, and therefore entreated me to ſpare her ſome room. He added, ſhe was a Perſon of

Qua-

Quality of *Andalouſia*, was lately a Widow, and that he had the honour to belong to her.

One of our Knights, named *Don Eſteve de Carjaval*, who is of the ſame Country, fail'd not to demand her Name of the old Gentleman. He told him, ſhe was the Marchioneſs *de los Rios*. At this Name he turn'd towards me, and ſpake to me of her as of a Perſon whoſe Merit and Birth were very conſiderable; I readily accepted of this good Company. She immediately came in her Litter, out of which ſhe had not deſcended, having found no Houſe where ſhe cou'd abide.

Her Dreſs ſeem'd to me very ſingular; had ſhe not been ſo handſom as ſhe was, ſhe cou'd never have appear'd in any ſort tolerable. Her Gown and Petticoat was of black Serge, and over them a kind of Linnen Surplice, which reacht down lower than her Knees; the Sleeves were long, and ſtrait in the Arm, which hung over her Hands. This Surplice was faſtned to her Gown, and being not pleated behind, it ſeem'd like a Bib. She wore on her Head a piece of Muſlin, which covered her Face, and one wou'd have taken it for a Religioſe's Hood:

this covered her Neck, and reach'd down very low. There appear'd no Hair on her Head, they were all hid under this Muſlin. She wore a great Mantle of black Taffaty, which covered her Heels; and over this Mantle ſhe had an Hat, whoſe Brims were very large, faſtned under her Chin with ſilken Twiſt. I was told they wear this but only when they travel.

This is the Habit of the Widows and *Duennas*, a Dreſs which is inſupportable to my ſight, and ſhou'd one meet with a Woman in the Night thus cloath'd, one might be ſtartled without reproach; yet the Lady was very beautiful in this unſeemly Dreſs. They never leave it, unleſs they marry; and they are oblig'd to bewail the Death of an Husband, whom they cou'd not endure when living.

I was inform'd they paſs the firſt Year of their Mourning in a Chamber hung with Black, wherein there is not the leaſt glimmering of Day-light to be ſeen; they ſit croſs-legg'd on a little *Holland* Quilt. When this Year is ended, they retire into a Chamber hung with Gray: they muſt have no Pictures, nor Looking glaſſes, nor Cabinets, nor fine Tables,

nor

nor Plate, neither muſt they have any Diamonds or wear any Colours. However modeſt they are, they muſt live ſo retired, that it muſt ſeem their Soul is already in the other World. This conſtraint is the cauſe that ſeveral Ladies who are wealthy, and eſpecially in rich Houſhold-goods, marry again to have the ſatisfaction of making uſe of them.

After the firſt Compliments, I inform'd my ſelf from this mournful Widow where ſhe was going, ſhe told me ſhe had not for a long time ſeen a friend of her Mother's who was a *Religious* at *Laſhuelgas de Burgos*, which is a famous Nunnery, wherein there is an 150 Nuns, moſt of 'em the Daughters of Princes, Dukes and *Titulado's*. She added, that the Abbeſs is Lady of 14 large Towns, and above 50 other places wherein ſhe chuſes Governors and Magiſtrates; that ſhe is Superior of 17 Convents; Collates to ſeveral Benefices, and diſpoſes of 12 Commanderſhips in favour of whom ſhe pleaſes. She told me ſhe deſign'd to paſs ſome time in this Monaſtery. *Can you, Madam,* ſaid I to her, *accuſtom your ſelf ſo retired a Life as is that of a Convent?* *'Twill be no hard matter,* ſaid ſhe, *for I believe I ſee fewer People at my own Houſe*

than I ſhall ſee there; and in effect theſe Religious have liberty enough. They are commonly the handſomeſt young Women of the Family who are put there. Theſe enter therein ſo young, that they know not what they are made to leave, nor what they undertake at the age of ſix or ſeven, and it may be ſooner. They are cauſed to make Vows, when 'tis often the Father or Mother, or ſome near Relation, who pronounce them for 'em, whilſt the little Sacrifice diſports herſelf with Sugar plums, and lets 'em dreſs her how they will: Yet the Bargain holds, there's no unſaying it; however, they have every thing which can be expected in their condition. There are at Madrid ſome whom they call the Ladies of St. James: they are properly Canoneſſes, who make their tryals like the Knights of this Order. They bear, like them, a Sword, made in form of a Croſs, embroidered with crimſon Silk; they have 'em on their Scapularies and great Cloaks, which are white. Theſe Ladies Houſe is very ſtately; all who come to viſit 'em enter without any difficulty: their Apartments are very fine, and every whit as well furniſht as if they were at large in the World. They enjoy great Penſions, and each of 'em has three or four Women to wait on them. It's true, they never ſtir out, nor ſee their neareſt Re-

lations

lations, but thro' ſeveral Grates: This perhaps wou'd look horrid in another Country, but in Spain *they are accuſtom'd to confinement.*

There are Convents where the Religious ſee more Cavaliers than the Women who live at large, neither are they leſs gallant. It is impoſſible for any to have more Wit and Gayety than they: and, as I have already told you, Madam, here are more Beauties than abroad: but it muſt be granted, there are ſeveral among them who are deeply ſenſible at their having been ſo ſoon ſacrific'd: they think of the Pleaſures which they have never taſted, as the only ones which can make this Life happy. They paſs theirs in a condition worthy of compaſſion, always telling you they are there by force, and that the Vows they are made to repeat at the age of five or ſix years, are to be regarded like Childrens plays.

Madam, ſaid I to her, *it wou'd have been great pity, had your Relations deſign'd you for ſuch a Life, and one may judge, in beholding you, that all the beautiful* Spaniſh *Ladies are not Religiouſes. Alas, Madam,* ſaid ſhe, in fetching a deep ſigh, *I know not what I wou'd be; it ſeems I am of a very odd humor, not to be contented with my Fortune: but one has ſometimes uneaſineſſes which*

which are unaccountable to reason. In ending these words, she fastned her Eyes to the ground, and fell into such a deep fit of musing, that I cou'd easily perceive something disturb'd her.

Whatever curiosity I had to know the Subject, we had been so little together, that I dared not desire to be her confident, but to draw her from the melancholy posture she was in, I entreated her to tell me some News of the Court of *Spain*, seeing she came from *Madrid*. She did what she cou'd to recover herself. She then told me, There were great shews of Joy at Court on the Queen's Birth-day; That the King had sent one of the Gentlemen of his Chamber to *Toledo*, to compliment her from him; yet these fine appearances hindred not the Marquess *de Manera*, the Queen's *Major domo*, from receiving Orders to retire twenty Leagues from the Court, which had greatly mortified this Princess. She inform'd us, That the Fleet which carri'd Troops to *Galicia*, was unhappily cast away on the Coasts of *Portugal*; That the little Dutchess *de Terra Nova*, was to espouse *Don Nicolo Pignatelli*, Prince *de Montelcon* her Uncle; That the Marquess *de Leganez* had

refused

refuſed the Viceroyalty of *Sardagnia*, being in love with a fine Lady, whom he cou'd not find in his heart to leave; That *Don Carlos de Omodei* Marqueſs *d'Almonazid* was dangerouſly ill, at his diſappointment of being admitted a Grandee of *Spain*, to which he pretended, having marri'd the Heireſs of the Houſe and Grandeurſhip of *Caſtel Rodrigue*, and that which moſt ſenſibly afflicted him, was, that *Don Ariel de Guſman*, this Lady's firſt Husband, had enjoyed this Honour, ſo that he cou'd not but look on the difficulties thrown in his way as a ſlighting of his perſon. *In truth, Madam*, ſaid I to her, *I can hardly comprehend how a Man of ſence, can with ſuch eagerneſs purſue, and be ſo greatly dejected at a diſappointment of this Nature.* We are otherwiſe affected in *Spain*, *replied the beautiful Widow*, and this Inſtance is a proof of it.

Don Frederic de Cardonne, who greatly intereſſed himſelf for the Duke *de Medina Celi*, askt her News of him. The King, *ſaid ſhe*, has lately made him Preſident of the *Indies*. The Queen-Mother has wrote to the King, on the Report which runs, that he is about Marrying; that ſhe is ſurpriz'd things are already gone ſo far,

and

and he has not acquainted her with them. She adds in her Letter, she adviſed him in the mean time, whil'ſt all things were ready for this Ceremony, to make a Journey to *Catalonia* and *Arragon*. *Don Juan* of *Auſtria* ſufficiently underſtands the neceſſity of this, and he preſſes the King to depart, to content theſe People, in promiſing by Oath, according as is cuſtomary to new Kings, to maintain all their ancient Priviledges. *Have then, Madam,* ſaid I to her, interrupting her, *the* Arragonois *any other Priviledges than the* Caſtillans? Very particular ones, *replied ſhe,* and you being a ſtranger, I believe you will be willing to let me inform you of them. Here's what I learnt.

The Daughter of Count *Julien*, named *Cava*, was one of the moſt beautiful Ladies in the World: King *Rodrigue* became ſo paſſionately in love with her, that his Affection knowing no bounds, tranſported him beyond all meaſure. The Father, who was then in *Affrica*, inform'd of the outrage done his Daughter, who breath'd nothing but revenge, treated with the *Moors*, and ſupplied 'em with the means to enter

ter into *Spain* * and to make there, for ſundry ages, all thoſe Ravages ſet forth at large in Hiſtory.

* This happened in 714 after the Battle of St. *Martin*, where in *Don Rodrigut* loſt his Life; others ſay, he fled into *Portugal*, and died in a Town there call'd *Viſcii*.

The *Arragonois* were the firſt who ſhook off the Yoak of theſe *Barbarians*, and finding no more among them any Princes of the Race of the *Gothiſh* Kings, they agreed to elect one, and caſt their eyes on a Lord of the Country, call'd *Garci Ximinez*; but they being Maſters to impoſe Laws on him, and finding himſelf ſufficiently happy that he might rule over them under any condition, theſe People therefore confined him within narrow bounds.

They agreed, that as ſoon as their Monarch ſhou'd break thro' any of their Laws, he ſhou'd immediately forfeit his Power, and they be at full liberty to chuſe another, tho' he were a *Pagan*: and to hinder him from violating their Priviledges, and to defend themſelves againſt him, they eſtabliſht a ſoveraign Magiſtrate, whom they call'd the *Juſtitia*, whoſe Office was to obſerve the

Con-

Conduct of the King, the Judges and the People: but the Power of a Soveraign being likely to awe a meer particular, to assure the *Justicia* in the execution of his Office, they ordered that he might not suffer either in his Person or Goods, but by a compleat Assembly of the States, which they call *Las Cortes.*

They moreover provided, that if the King shou'd oppress any one of his Subjects, the great and considerable Men of the Kingdom might assemble themselves, to hinder his receiving any of his Revenues, till the innocent was acquitted, and re-establisht in his former Rights. And to make *Garci Ximines* timely sensible of the power this Man had over him, they set him on a kind of Throne, and made the King to kneel down bare-headed before him, to receive from him his Oath of keeping their Priviledges. This Ceremony ended, they acknowledge him their Soveraign, but in as odd as disrepectful a manner, for instead of promising him Fidelity and Obedience, they say to him, *We who are as good Men as your self, we make you our King and Governor, on condition you keep to us our Rights and Properties, otherwise we disacknowledge you.*

The

The King, *Don Pedro*, in proceſs of
ne coming to the Crown, relliſht this
ſtom, as unworthy of the Regal
ate; and it ſo greatly diſguſted him,
t by his Authority and Intreaties, and
offers he made of beſtowing ſeveral
table Priviledges on the Kingdom, he
ocured the Aboliſhment of this, in an
ſſembly of the States: He got this ge-
al Conſent in Writing, which was
ſented to him. As ſoon as he had
Parchment, he drew out his Dagger,
d pierced his Hand with it, ſaying,
*was fit a Law which gave Subjects the li-
y of chuſing their Sovereign, ſhould be e-
d with their Sovereign's Blood.* His
tue is ſtill ſeen in the *Deputation Hall*
Saragoſſa. He holds a Dagger in one
nd, and the Charter in the other.
e late Kings have not been ſuch Reli-
us Obſervers of their Priviledges as
firſt.

But there is a Law ſtill in force, and
ich is very ſingular, and this they call
Law of Manifeſtation; which is, That
an *Arragonois* has had Wrong done
n in Judgment, in conſigning 500.
owns, he may bring his Cauſe before
Juſticia, who is obliged, after an
ct Perquiſition, to puniſh him who
has

has giv'n a wrong Sentence: And if he fails therein, the oppreſt Perſon may have Recourſe to the States of the Kingdom, who Aſſemble and Nominate Five Perſons of their Body, which is to ſay, of the Prime Nobility, the Eccleſiaſticks, the Gentry and Commonalty: They appoint Three out of the firſt Rank and Two from each of the others: But it is obſervable, they chooſe the moſt Ignorant to Judge the moſt Able Men in the Gown, whether to diſgrace 'em the more for their Fault, or, as they alledge, *That Juſtice ſhould be ſo clear, that the very Plowmen, and thoſe who underſtand it leaſt, ſhould diſcern it without the help of Oratory.* It is likewiſe affirm'd, That the Judges tremble when they pronounce Sentence, fearing leſt it turn again themſelves, to the loſs of their Lives or Eſtates, ſhould they commit the leaſt Fault therein, either willfully, or through Inadvertency. It were well if this Cuſtom were obſerv'd in all Kingdoms. But this is rather to be wiſh'd than expected.

Yet what is no leſs ſingular, is, That *Juſtice* remains always Sovereign; and tho' the *unjuſt Judge* be puniſh'd ſeverely for his wrong Decree, yet it ſubſiſts

s full force, and is fully executed. If hen an Unhappy Wretch be ſentenc'd o Death, he is not ſpared, tho his In-ocency be diſcovered, and made as lear as Noon-day; but his *Judges* are xecuted too before his Face; which, in y mind, is a poor Conſolation. If the *Judge* accuſed, has juſtly perform'd his Office, the Plaintiff leaves the 500. rowns which he had conſign'd: But ere he to loſe an 100000. Crowns of nnual Revenue, by the Sentence he omplains of, the Sentence or Decree re-ains good, and the *Judge* is only con-emn'd to pay him likewiſe 500. rowns, the reſt of this *Judge's* Eſtate is rfeited to the King; which is, in my pinion, another Point of *Injuſtice*; for fine, he ought, above all others, to ve Recompenſe made him who ſuffers a wrong Sentence.

Theſe ſame People have another Cu-om, to diſtinguiſh by the Puniſhment e Crime committed: For example, a *valier*, who has kill'd another in Duel or they are here ſtrictly forbid), he has Head cut off before; and he that has aſſaſſinated, his is cut off behind: This to diſtinguiſh him who has behaved imſelf like a brave Man, from him that

that kills you Treacherously.

She added, That to speak in general of the *Arragonois*, They have a Natural Pride, which is hard to be suppress'd: but likewise, to do them Justice, there are People of brave Minds to be found among them; Insomuch, that they are easily discern'd from all the rest of the Kings of *Spain*'s Subjects; That they have never wanted Great Men, from their first King to *Ferdinand*; That they counted such a great number of them, as would scarce be believ'd: However, they have greatly recommended themselves by their Valour and Conduct. That as to the rest, their Countrey was so little fruitful, that excepting some Valleys which were watered by Channels, whose Water came from the *Ebre*, the rest was so dry and sandy, that you meet with scarce any thing else but stony and parched-up places. That *Sarragossa* is a great City, the Houses finer than at *Madrid*; the Publick Places adorn'd with Arches: That the holy Street, where the Courses are run, is so long and large, as may make it pass for a great and vast place, having several great Mens Palaces on it, that of *Castelmorat* being one of the pleasantest: That the

Vault

Vault of St. *Francis's Church* was very curious, for being of extraordinary largeneſs, yet 'tis upheld by no Pillars: That the City is not ſtrong, but the Inhabitants ſo ſtout, that it needed no Walls: That it has never a Fountain, this being one of its greateſt Defects: That the *Ebre* carried no Boats, the River being full of dangerous Rocks. As to the reſt, the Archbiſhoprick was worth 60000. Crowns a year: That the Vice Royalty brought in no Revenue, being a Place of Honour, fit only for great Lords to bear the Expence of it, to maintain their Rank, and keep the People under, who are Naturally fierce and Imperious, not Affable to Strangers; and ſo little deſirous of making Acquaintance, that they chooſe rather to ſtay at home alone all their life-time, than ſtir out to procure Friendſhips: That here is a ſevere *Inquiſition*, who have a ſtately Palace, and a moſt *Rigid Court of Juſtice*: Yet this does not hinder great Troops of Robbers, call'd *Bandoleros*, from Ravaging, and diſperſing themſelves over all *Spain*; who give no Quarter to Travellers, ſnatching up ſometimes Women of Quality, whom they afterwards ſet at Ranſom, for their Parents to redeem; but

but when they are handſome they keep them: And this is the greateſt Misfortune can happen to 'em, being forced to ſpend their Days with the worſt of Men, who keep them in dreadful caves, or carry them along with them on Horſeback, being ſo furiouſly jealous of 'em, that one of their Captains (having been lately ſet upon by Soldiers ſent into the Mountains to ſeize on him), being mortally wounded, and having his Miſtriſs with him, who was of the Marqueſs *de Camaraza*, a Grandee of *Spain*'s Family; when ſhe ſaw him in this condition, ſhe thought only of making Uſe of this favourable Opportunity of ſaving her ſelf; which he perceiving, dying, as he was, he catch'd hold of her Hair, and ſtruck his Dagger into her Breaſt, *being not willing*, ſaid he, *that another ſhould poſſeſs a Treaſure which had been ſo dear to him.* And this is what himſelf acknowledg'd to the Soldiers who found him, and ſaw this ſad Spectacle.

The Beautiful Marchioneſs here held her peace; and I return'd her all due Thanks for the Favour ſhe did me, in informing me of theſe Curioſities; and of which, perhaps without her, I might

have

ve been Ignorant all my Life. *I do not nk, Madam,* said she to me, *you owe me Thanks; I rather fear the having de- ved Reproaches for so long and tiresome a nversation.*

I would not let her leave me to eat ewhere, and I obliged her to lye with e, she having no Bed. So Civil and urteous a Proceeding made her much y Friend. She assured me of this in ch Affectionate Terms, that I could doubt of it; for I must tell you, the *nish* Women are more caressing than , and are far more kind and tender those they profess Friendship.

In fine, I could not forbear telling , *That if she had all the kindness for me made profession, she must be so complai- t, to inform me, what made her seem melancholly? That I had heard her fetch p Sighs in the Night, and appear'd very less and disconsolate; That if she could any comfort in sharing her Grief with , I offered my Service to her, as a most hful Friend.* She embraced me with at Affection, and told me, without ay, she would immediately satisfie Curiosity; which she did in these rms:

See-

Seeing you are desirous to know me, I mu without disguising to you any thing, ackno ledge my Weaknesses to you; and by my Si cerity and Open-heartedness, deserve a Curio ty as obliging as yours.

I come not of such a Family as ma claim Nobility; my Father's Name w *Davila*; he was only a Banker, but was in good Credit, and was modera ly wealthy. We are of *Seville*, Capi of *Andalousia*, and we have ever dwe there. My Mother knew the World, s saw many People of Quality, and havi no Children but me, she took great ca of my Education. It did not appe ill-bestowed on me; for I had the go Fortune to get the good will of most th saw me.

We had two Neighbours who ca often to our House, who were very w come both to my Father and Moth Their Condition and Age were in sort alike: One was the Marques *Los Rios*, a Person Wealthy and Nob he was a Widower, and well advanced years: the other was the Son of a gr Merchant, who traded to the *Indies*; was young and handsome, he had W and a very graceful Behaviour;

N

Name was *Mendez*. He was not long before he fell passionately in Love with me; so that he omitted nothing which might please me, and gain my Affections.

He was in all places where he knew I was to pass; he spent whole Nights under my Windows, to sing Verses which he had composed, and set to my Praise, which he had very well accompany'd with his Harp.

But seeing his Attendancies had not all the Effect he expected, and having past some time in this manner, without daring to mention his Affection to me, he at length resolv'd to make use of the first occasion to acquaint me with it. I avoided him ever since I had a Conversation with one of my Friends, who had more Experience and Knowledge of the World than I. I had felt, that *Mendez*'s Company gave me Joy, and that my Heart had an Emotion for him, which it had not for others. That when his Affairs, or our Visits hindred him from seeing me, I grew restless; and loving this Young Woman above others, and being so dear to her, she observ'd I was not so

free and gay as I was wont, and that my Eyes were ſometimes attentively fixt on *Mendez*. One Day when ſhe rally'd with me about it, I ſaid to her very innocently, *My dear* Henrietta, *define to me the Sentiments I have for* Mendez: *I know not whether I ought to be afraid of them, and whether I ought not to defend myſelf from them. I feel I know not what ſort of Trouble and Pleaſure ariſing in my Breaſt.* She began to laugh, ſhe embraced me, and ſaid to me, *My dear Heart, you are in Love. Who, I in Love?* reply'd I in a maze: *You joke with me; I neither am, nor will be in Love. This depends not always on us,* continued ſhe with a more ſerious Air, *our Stars decide this before our Hearts. But in earneſt, what is it ſo much ſtartles you?* Mendez *is in a Condition equal to yours; he deſerves well, a good comely Man; and if his Affairs go on with the ſame ſucceſs as they have done hitherto, you may live very happily with him. And whence ſhould I learn,* reply'd I, interrupting her, *that he will be happy with me, and that he ſo much as thinks this? O, take my Word for it,* anſwer'd ſhe, *whatever he has done has its Deſigns; for Men are not wont to paſs Nights under Windows, and the Days in following*

wing a perſon for whom they have nothing at indifferency.

After ſome other Diſcourſe of this nature, ſhe left me, and I reſolv'd, maugre the Repugnance I felt in me, to give *Menlez* no opportunity of ſpeaking to me in particular.

But one Night as I was walking in the Garden, he came towards me. I was perplext to ſee my ſelf alone with him; and he had the opportunity of obſerving it on my Countenance, and in the manner after which I receiv'd him. This could not divert him from the deſign he had of entertaining me. *How happy am I, Madam,* ſaid he, *to find you alone? But do I call my ſelf happy? Perhaps I know not what I ſay: for it may be you will not receive a Secret with which I would entruſt you. I am as yet ſo young,* ſaid I to him, bluſhing, *that I would adviſe you to ſay nothing to me, unleſs you would have me impart it to my Companions. Alas,* continued he, *could I tell you, I adore you; That all my happineſs depends on the Inclinations you have towards me: That I cannot live without ſome certainty, that I may one day pleaſe you; will you tell this to your Companions? No,* ſaid I to

I to him in great perplexity, *I would look on this Confidence as a Railery; and not believing it my ſelf, I would not hazard its being left to be believ'd by others.*

We were interrupted as I ended theſe words; and he appear'd to me not over-content with the Anſwer I made him; and a while after he found an opportunity to reproach me with it.

I could not but give a favourable Ear to the Inclinations I had towards him; every thing he told me ſeem'd to me to have its particular Gracefulneſs: And it was no hard matter for him to perſwade me, that he lov'd me above all things in the World.

In the mean time, the Marqueſs *de Los Rios* took ſuch a liking to me, and my Perſon and Behaviour ran ſo deeply in his Thoughts, that he wholly applied himſelf to pleaſe me. He was very nice and cautious; he could not reſolve with himſelf to owe me wholly to my Parents Authority. He well knew they would receive as an Honour the Intentions he had for me; but he was for gaining my Conſent before he demanded theirs.

In

In this Deſign he ſaid all to me he thought was like to take with me. I anſwer'd him, I ſhould always think it an indiſpenſable Duty to obey my Father: yet our Ages were ſo different, that I told him I thought 'twere better he left off thinking of me; that I ſhould have an everlaſting Acknowledgment for the advantageous Intentions he had for me; and therefore I would eſteem him, tho' I could not love him. Having heard what I ſaid, he was ſome time without ſpeaking, and immediately taking up a very generous Reſolution: *Lovely* Mariana, ſays he, *you might have made me the happieſt man in the World; and if you were ambitious, I had wherewith to ſatisfie you: But you refuſe me, and deſire to be another's: I conſent to it; I love you too well to be in ſuſpence, whether you are to be ſatisfi'd or I: I therefore wholly ſacrifice my happineſs to you, and leave you for ever.* In ending theſe Words he left me, and appear'd ſo afflicted, that I could not forbear being concern'd.

Mendez arriv'd a while after, and found me melancholly: he was ſo earneſt with me to know the Cauſe, that I could not deny him this Proof of my

Complaiſance. Any one but he would have had a ſenſible Obligation at the Excluſion I came from giving his Rival: But far from ſeeming to value it, he told me, He ſaw in mine Eyes the Regret I had for a Lover, who could place me in another ſort of a Rank than he was able; and that my proceeding was very cruel. I in vain endeavoured to make him ſenſible of the Injuſtice of his; but all I could ſay, could not hinder him from charging me with Inconſtancy. I remain'd vext, and ſurpriz'd at this his way of dealing, and was ſeveral Days without ſpeaking to him.

He, in fine, at laſt underſtood he had no Reaſon to complain; he came to me, and begg'd my Pardon, and teſtifi'd to me a great diſpleaſure at his own Jealouſie. He excuſed himſelf, as all Lovers do, on the ſtrength of his Paſſion. I had ſo much Weakneſs as to be willing to forget the trouble he had giv'n me. We made up the Matter between us, and he continued on his Courtſhip.

His Father having underſtood the Paſſion he had for me, thought he could not procure him a more advantageous Marriage: He took notice of it to him, and came

me afterwards to my Father, to open
o him the Proposal. They had been
ng Friends; he was favourably heard,
nd they easily agreed on the Matter.

Mendez came to inform me of the
lews, with such Transports as would
ave seem'd ridiculous to any other than
Mistriss. My Mother ordered me to
ok kindly on him, telling me, this Af-
ir would be advantageous to me; And
soon as the *India* Fleet should Arrive,
herein he was greatly concern'd, the
larriage should be concluded.

Whilst Matters thus past, the Marquis
Los Rios had retired to one of his
ountrey-houses, where he scarcely saw
ny one. He led a languishing Life: he
ill lov'd me, but hindred himself from
elling me so, and from comforting him-
lf by this Innocent Remedy.

In fine, his Body could not resist the
eavines of his Mind; he fell danger-
usly ill, and being told by the Physici-
ns, there was no hope of his Recovery,
e pluckt up his Spirits to write me the
ost affectionate Letter imaginable, and
nt at the same time to me a Deed of
ift of all his Estate, in case he dyed.

My Mother was in my Chamber, when a Gentleman presented this Packet from him; she would know what it contain'd.

I could not forbear at the same time telling her what had past; and we were both of us in the greatest surprize at the Marquesses extream Generosity. She sent him word, that I should go with my Family to thank him for a Liberality which I had no ways deserv'd: And in particular, she sharply reprehended me for having made a Mystery of a thing to her with which I ought to have immediately acquainted her. I threw my self at her Feet; I excused my self the best I could, and testifi'd such great sorrow for having displeas'd her, that she easily pardon'd me. Leaving my Chamber, she went to my Father, and having learnt him all which had past, they resolv'd to go the next Morning to see the Marques, and to carry me with them.

I acquainted *Mendez* with this in the Evening; and the fear I had, lest my Parents should, in fine, make me marry this Old Man, if he chanced to escape out of his sickness. However sensible I appear'd to him of this, he was so far tran-

ranſported, and reproacht me ſo greatly with it, that I muſt have loved him as much as I did, not to have broke off with him. But he had ſuch an Aſcendant over me, that tho' he was the Injuſteſt of all Men, yet I thought him the moſt reaſonable.

We were at the Marqueſs *de Los Rios*; His Countrey-houſe was not above two Leagues from *Seville*. Dying, as he was, he receiv'd us with ſuch Joy as was eaſily obſervable. My Father teſtifi'd to him his Grief, to ſee him in ſo low a Condition, thankt him for the Donation he made me, and aſſured him, if he could find a fair and juſt Pretence, he would break off with *Mendez*, to whom he had engaged his Word: That ſhould this happen, he promiſt him ſolemnly I ſhould be no body's but his. He receiv'd this Aſſurance in the ſame manner as if he had receiv'd his perfect Felicity; but he knew well the Dolor I conceiv'd thereat. I became pale, my Eyes were covered with Tears; and when we were about leaving him, he deſired me to draw near to him. He told me with a languiſhing Tone; *Fear nothing*, Mariana; *I love you too well to displeaſe you; you ſhall have* Mendez, *ſeeing*

ing your Affections are engaged to him. I answer'd him: *I had no particular Inclination for him; but being commanded to respect him, as a man who was to be my Husband, I could do no otherwise; however, I intreated him to be well.*

This seem'd to me the least step I could take towards a Person to whom I had so great Obligations. He appear'd thereat sufficiently satisfy'd, attempting to take my Hand and kiss it. *Remember,* said he to me, *you enjoyn me to live; and that my Life being your Work, you will be oblig'd to conserve it.* We return'd at Night, and the Impatient *Mendez* waited for us, to make me new Reproaches. I took 'em as I was wont, as Proofs of his Passion: And having justifi'd my self, I ask't him, What News there was of the Fleet? *Alas!* said he to me, *my Father has receiv'd such as drive me to Despair: I dare not inform you. Have you any thing separate from me,* said I to him, looking tenderly on him? *Wou'd you have me to be as reserv'd to you? I am too happy,* reply'd he, *in that you have such favourable Dispositions; and being not able to keep any Secret from you, I must plainly tell you, that the*

the Galion in which is our whole Eſtate, is split and lost, running againſt a Rock.

But I ſhould be leſs ſenſible, how greatly ſoever I am Intereſt, did I not look on the Unhappy Conſequences of this Loſs. *Your Preſence will reſtore the Marqueſs* de Los Rios *to his Health: His Sentiments for you are known in your Family; he is Rich, and a great Lord; I become miſerable; and if you forſake me, my Dear* Mariana, *I ſhall have no more hope but in a ſpeedy Death.* I was pierced with ſorrow at this ſad News: I took one of his Hands, and cloſing it with mine, I ſaid to him, *My Dear* Mendez, *do not think me capable of loving you, and yet leaving you, by the Effects of your good or bad Fortune. If you be able to bear up againſt it, believe me ſo too. I call Heaven to witneſs,* continued I, *provided you love me, and be faithful to me, that I will never forſake you, and let it puniſh me if ever I prove Inconſtant.*

He teſtifi'd all the Acknowledgements he ought me for ſuch Affectionate Aſſurances, and we reſolv'd not to divulge this Accident.

I withdrew very melancholly, and ſhut my ſelf up in my Cloſet, ruminating on.

on the Conſequences of this ſad Diſaſter. I was ſtill there, when I heard ſome body knocking ſoftly at the Shutters of my Window. I drew near, and ſaw *Mendez* by the Light of the Moon: *What do you here*, ſaid I to him, *at this time of the Night?* *Alas*, anſwer'd he to me, *I was trying, whether I could ſpeak with you before I departed. My Father has again lately receiv'd News of the Galion, and will have me immediately go where ſhe is run a-ground, to endeavour to ſave ſomething. It is a great way thither, and I ſhall be a great while without ſeeing you.* *Ah, Dear* Mariana, *during all this time will you be as good as your Word to me? May I hope my dear Miſtriſs will be faithful to me?* *What Reaſon have I giv'n you*, Mendez, ſaid I, interrupting him, *to doubt it? Yes*, continued I, *I will love you were you the moſt unfortunate man in the world.*

It would be to abuſe your Patience, Madam, to relate to you whatever we ſaid in this doleful Separation; and tho' there appear'd no danger, yet our hearts had a fore-boding of what was afterwards to happen to us. The Day began to appear, and we muſt bid *Adieu*: I ſaw him

him ſhed Tears, which were accompa-
ny'd with mine.

I threw my ſelf on my Bed, rowling a thouſand ſad Thoughts in my Mind; and I appear'd the next Morning ſo out of Order, that my Father and Mother were afraid I was falling into ſome dangerous fit of ſickneſs.

Mendez his Father came to make them a Viſit, to excuſe his Son's parting without taking his Leave of them. He added, *He had a Buſineſs which required ſuch haſte, as would not ſuffer him a minutes time at his diſpoſal.* As to my ſelf, Madam, I was comfortleſs, being inſenſible to every thing: And if any thing cou'd eaſe me, 'twas ſome hours Converſation with my Dear *Henrietta*, with whom I freely vented my Thoughts touching the long Abſence of *Mendez*.

In the mean time the Marqueſs *de Los Rios* was out of danger, and my Father went often to ſee him. I obſerv'd one Day great Alteration on my Mother's Countenance, ſhe and my Father having been long ſhut up with *Religioueſes*, who came to give 'em a Viſit; and after a Conference of ſome time, they call'd me,

me, without my being able to divine the Cauſe.

I entred into their Apartment in ſuch diſorder, that I knew not what I did. One of theſe good Fathers, Venerable by his Age and Habit, ſpake much to me about the Reſignation we owe to the Divine Will, on his Providence, in every thing which relates to us: And the Cloſe of his Diſcourſe was, That *Mendez* was taken by the *Algerines*: That he was a Slave: And by his Misfortune theſe Pyrates had learnt he was a Rich Merchant's Son; which had occaſion'd the ſetting him at an extraordinary Ranſom. That they were at *Algiers* in the time he arriv'd; wou'd have willingly brought him along with 'em, but the Money which they had for all, was not ſufficient for him alone. That at their Return they had been at his Father's to inform him of this Vexatious Diſaſter; but found he had abſented himſelf; and that the loſs of a Galion, on which was embarkt all his Effects, without being able to ſave any thing, had induced him to avoid his Creditors, who ſought him every where, to throw him in Priſon. That things being in this Condition, they

ſaw

ſaw no remedy to poor *Mendez* his Miſfortunes; being in the hands of *Meluza* the moſt famous and covetous of all the Corſaries, and that if I wou'd follow their Advice and that of my Parents, I wou'd think of taking another party. I had ſo far heard this dreadful News in ſo ecſtatic a condition, that I cou'd only interrupt them by ſad ſighs; but when he told me I muſt think of another party, I burſt out with Tears and Shrieks, as made both my Father and Mother and theſe Religio's compaſſionate me.

I was carri'd into my Chamber as one nearer death than life; and *Donna Henrietta* was ſent for, and it was not without great affliction ſhe beheld me in this ſad condition. I fell into a moſt deep melancholly; I tormented my ſelf day and night, and nothing was able to remove my dear *Mendez* out of my mind.

The Marqueſs *de los Rios*, having learnt what had paſt, conceiv'd ſuch ſtrong hopes, that he ſoon found himſelf in a condition to come and claim of my Father and me the effect of the words we had giv'n him. I ſhew'd him that

mine

mine were not diſengaged in reſpect of *Mendez*: that he was unfortunate, which no ways leſſen'd my engagements to him. He heard me without being perſwaded by me, and told me, I had the ſame deſire of deſtroying my ſelf, as others had of ſaving themſelves; that 'twas more my intereſt than his which made him act as he did. And being raviſht with having a pretence which ſeem'd to him plauſible, he preſt my Father with ſuch earneſtneſs, that he at length conſented to what he deſired.

It is impoſſible for me to repreſent to you, Madam, in what an Abyſs of Sorrow I was in. What is become, my Lord, *ſaid I to the Marqueß*, of that ſcrupulous tenderneſs which hinder'd you from taking my Heart from any other hand than my own. Let me at leaſt have ſome time to forget *Mendez*; perhaps his Abſence and Misfortunes may prevail on me to ſome indifferency towards him. To this cruel Accident, which has ſnatch'd him ſo lately from me, you add new Troubles when you expect I ſhou'd ſo ſpeedily paſs over from him to you.

I know

I know not what I expect or may ope for, *ſaid he to me*, but this I am re of, that my complaiſance had like have coſt me my Life; that if you e not deſign'd for me, you will be ano-ers; and as to *Mendez*, his Fortune has een ſuch, that he can no longer pre-nd to you; and ſeeing you muſt be iſpoſed of, I think you are very hard earted to refuſe me. You cannot be norant of what I have done hitherto pleaſe you, my former proceeding ou'd ſerve as a ſufficient Teſtimony of y future reſpects.

The Marqueſs made a greater pro-reſs in my Father's mind than mine. n a word, my Mother having one day nt for me, told me, 'Twas to no pur-oſe to uſe any longer Delays, my Fa-her being reſolv'd I ſhou'd obey his Or-lers. Whatever I cou'd ſay to excuſe ny ſelf, my Tears, my Remonſtrances, Entreaties were all to no purpoſe, and erv'd only to exaſperate my Mother.

All things neceſſary were prepar'd for ny Marriage, the Marqueſs wou'd have very thing ſuitable to his quality; he ent me a Cabinet of Jewels and Preci-ous Stones, to the value of ſeveral thou-

ſand

ſand Crowns. The fatal day for our Wedding was ſet. Seeing my ſelf reduced to this extremity, I took a reſolution which will ſurprize you, Madam, and demonſtrate a great Paſſion.

I went to *Dona Henrietta*; this Friend had been ever faithful to me, and threw my ſelf at her feet, ſurpriſing her by ſo extraordinary a carriage. *My dear* Henrietta, ſaid I to her, melting in Tears, *there is no remedy to my Misfortunes, unleſs you have pity on me; do not abandon me, let me conjure you in the ſad condition I am in; to morrow I muſt marry the Marquis* de Los Rios: *I can no longer avoid it. If the offers of friendſhip you have made me be proof againſt all tryal, and can make you capable of a generous Reſolution, you will not refuſe to follow my fortune, and to accompany me to* Algers *to pay* Mendez *his Ranſom, to redeem him from the cruel ſlavery he is in. You ſee me at your feet,* continued I, *I will never riſe till you have giv'n me your word to do what I deſire you.* She ſeem'd ſo concern'd at my poſture, that I aroſe to make her anſwer me. She immediately embraced me with great teſtimonies of tenderneſs. *I will refuſe you nothing, my dear* Mariana, ſaid ſhe

to

o me, *were it my very life; but you are oing to ruine your ſelf and me with you. How can two Girls execute what you pro- ct? Our Age, our Sex, and your Beauty, ill expoſe us to accidents, the bare imagi- ation of which makes me to tremble: this certain, we are going to overwhelm our amilies with ſhame and confuſion, and if ou had made ſerious Reflections hereon, it is ot poſſible you cou'd have come to this reſolu- ion. Ah barbarous,* cried I, *and more bar- arous than he that detains my Lover; you rſake me, but tho' I am alone, yet that all not hinder me from purſuing my point, either can the aſſiſtance you ſhou'd give me land me in much ſtead: remain, remain, I nſent, it is fit I ſhou'd depart without any mfort to affront all dangers; I confeſs uch an undertaking is fit only for a deſperate reature.*

My Reproaches and Tears moved *Henrietta*; ſhe told me my intereſt had bliged her as much as her own to ſpeak o me as ſhe had done; but in ſhort, ſee- ng I perſiſted in my firſt reſolution, and othing cou'd divert me from it, ſhe was reſolved I ſhou'd not go alone; That f I wou'd be ruled by her, we ſhou'd iſguiſe our ſelves; That ſhe wou'd un-

dertake

dertake to get two Suits of Mens Apparel, and as for the reſt it belong'd to me to take care of it. I embraced her with a thouſand teſtimonies of thankfulneſs.

I afterwards askt her, whether ſhe had ſeen the Jewels which the Marqueſs had ſent me; I will bring them, ſaid I to her, to purchaſe *Mendez* ranſom with them. We reſolved to loſe no time, and we neither of us fail'd in what we had projected.

Never were two Maidens better diſguiſed under the Habit of two Cavaliers. We parted that Night, and embarkt our ſelves without the leaſt obſtacle, but after ſome days ſail we were overtaken by ſo violent a ſtorm, as made us deſpair of our ſafety. In all this diſorder and peril, I was leſs concerned for my ſelf, than for not having compaſſed my dear *Mendez* liberty, and for having engaged *Henrietta* to follow my ill fortune. *It is I*, ſaid I to her, in imbracing her, *it is I, my dear Companion, that has rais'd this ſtorm, were I not on the Sea it wou'd be calm; my misfortune follows me where ever I go.* In fine, we having been a day and two nights in continual

nal Alarums, the Weather chang'd, and we arriv'd at *Algers*.

I was ſo glad to ſee my ſelf in a condition to deliver *Mendez*, that I reckon'd all the Dangers we underwent as nothing. But alas, what became of me in diſembarking, when after all the ſearch which cou'd be made, I perceiv'd there was no hope of finding the little Cabinet wherein I had put all I had was moſt precious: I found my ſelf ſeiz'd with ſuch violent grief, that I thought I ſhou'd have expired before I got out of the Veſſel. Without doubt this Cabinet which was little, and of which I took but ſmall care during the Tempeſt, fell into the ſea, or was ſtole, which ever of theſe two it was, I made a conſiderable loſs, and I had only remaining Jewels to the value of a thouſand Pounds, which I had kept for all events about me.

I reſolv'd with this, to make a tryal with *Mendez* Patron. As ſoon as we were in the Town, we enquired out his Houſe, (for *Meluza* was well known) and went thither clad as Gentlemen.

I cannot expreſs to you, Madam, the trouble I was in drawing near this Houſe, where I knew my dear Lover languiſht in

in Chains; what ſad Reflections did not make; how did I look when I enter'd the Corſary's Houſe and ſaw *Mendez* Chain'd, with ſeveral others, who were leading out to work in the field. I ſhou'd have fall'n at his feet, had not *Henriett* born me up. I no longer knew where was, nor what I did; I wou'd have ſpoken to him, but grief had ſo ſeiz'd on my Spirits, that my Tongue cou'd not utter a word. As to him, he beheld me not; he was ſo ſad and depreſt, that he cou'd look on no body, and one muſt love him as much as I did, to know him, ſo greatly was he changed.

After having been ſome time coming to my ſelf, I went into a low Room where I was told *Meluza* was; I ſaluted him, and told him the occaſion of my Voyage; that *Mendez* was my near Relation; that he was undone by the loſs of a Galeon and his Captivity together; and that 'twas out of my own Money I wou'd pay his Ranſom. The Moor appear'd to me little concern'd at what I ſaid; and looking ſcornfully on me, he anſwer'd, it was not his buſineſs to enquire whence I had my Money, but this he certainly knew, that *Mendez* was rich

ich; and to ſhew that he wou'd not ke all advantages, he wou'd therefore t him at twenty thouſand Crowns.

Alas what wou'd this have been, had not loſt my Jewels; but this was too uch in the condition I was in. In ne, after ſeveral long fruitleſs Diſputes, took on me immediately a reſolu-on which cou'd only be inſpired by an tream love.

Here's all I have, ſaid I to the Pyrate, giving him my Diamonds, they are ot worth what thou demandeſt: take e for thy ſlave, and be perſwaded thou ilt not keep me long. I am the only aughter of a rich Banker of *Seville*; ep me for an Hoſtage, and let *Men-* go; he will ſoon return to redeem e. The *Barbarian* was ſurpriz'd to d me capable of ſo generous and af-ctionate a Reſolution. Thou art wor-y, *ſaid he to me*, of a better Fortune. it ſo; I accept the condition you of-me, I will take care of thee, and be good Patron to thee. Thou muſt ve the Habit thou weareſt, to put on e agreeable to thy Sex; thou ſhalt ep thy Jewels if thou wilt, I can well ſtay for the whole as for a t.

Dona

Dona Henrietta was ſo confuſed and diſmayed at the bargain I came from concluding, that ſhe cou'd not ſufficiently expreſs her diſpleaſure to me; but in fine, maugre all her Remonſtrances and Entreaties, I held firm, and *Meluza* caus'd a Slaves Habit to be brought me, which I put on.

He conducted me to his Wives Chamber, to whom he deliver'd me, having recounted to her what I had done for my Lover's liberty.

She ſeem'd to be much affected with it, and promis'd ſhe wou'd ſhorten the time of my Servitude by all the good treatments ſhe cou'd make me.

At Night, when *Mendez* return'd, *Meluza* caus'd him to be call'd, telling him that being of *Seville*, he wou'd therefore ſhew him a Slave he had bought, becauſe perhaps he might know her.

Immediately I was brought before him; *Mendez* at this ſight, loſing all countenance, came and caſt himſelf at my Feet, and taking my Hands which he bathed with his Tears, he ſaid every thing which was moſt tender and affectionate to me. *Meluza* and his Wife diverted themſelves, in ſeeing

ing the different Motions of Joy and Grief with which we were agitated: in fine, they inform'd *Mendez* of the Obligations he had to me; that he was free, and that I wou'd remain in his place. He did what ever cou'd be done to diſſwade me from taking this Task on me. Alas, *ſaid he to me*, you wou'd have me load you with my Chains, my dear Miſtris; ſhall I be free, when you are not? I go then to do for you what you come from doing for me; I will ſell my ſelf, and redeem you with his Money: for in fine, conſider that hou'd I as ſoon as I arrive at *Sevelle* find ſſiſtance, and return again to bring you ack, yet how is it poſſible for me in the mean time to leave you; judge how I an do this in a time wherein my Fortune promiſes me nothing, and am the moſt unhappy of all Men. I offered againſt all his Reaſons, the Tenderneſs of my Father, who wou'd ſoon redeem me when he knew where I was. In fine, I made uſe of all the Power I had over his Mind, to make his advantage of what I had done in his favour.

What ſhall I ſay to you, Madam, of our Separation? It was ſo dolorous,

that words cannot expreſs what we felt. I obliged *Henrietta* to part with him, to ſollicit and preſs my Parents to do their part in my behalf.

In the mean time my Father and Mother were in an unconceivable affliction; and when they perceiv'd my flight, they thought to die with grief.

They blamed themſelves infinitely for forcing me to Marry the Marqueſs *de los Rios*. He was for his part in no leſs deſpair; they cauſed me to be ſearcht for in vain, in all places where they thought I might have hid my ſelf.

Two whole Years were paſt without my receiving any News or Succours from *Mendez*; which made me believe with great likelihood, that both he and *Henrietta* were caſt away on the Sea; I had given them all the Jewels which *Meluza* had left me; but it was not their loſs, nor that of my liberty, which I regretted. It was of my dear Lover and faithful Friend, whoſe remembrance continually poſſeſt me, and caus'd me an unparalel'd Affliction; I cou'd get no reſt nor health; I wept day and night; I refuſed to come out of my ſlavery in neglecting to ſignifie

to

o my Father my preſent condition. I wiſht only for a ſpeedy death, which I wou'd have willingly met with, to ut an end to my Troubles and Miſ-ortunes.

Meluza and his Wife began to pity ne: they did not doubt but *Mendez* as caſt away: they treated me leſs ruelly, than theſe ſort of People are wont o uſe thoſe unhappy Wretches, who fall nto their hands.

One day, as *Meluza* came from Py-ating, he brought with him ſeveral Per-ons of both Sexes which he had taken, nd among the reſt a young Woman of me quality of *Seville*, and whom I new. This ſight renewed my grief: e was much ſurpriz'd to find me in this d place. We affectionately embraced ne another, and obſerving a deep ſi-ence; How now beautiful *Mariana*, *id ſhe to me*, are you ſo indifferent to-ards your Relations and Country, that ou have no curioſity to make any En-iries about them? I lifted up mine yes to Heaven in uttering a deep ſigh; entreated her to tell me if 'twere nown where *Mendez* and *Henrietta* ere loſt? Who has told you they

are loſt? *replied ſhe.* They are at *Seville*, where they lead a very happy life.

Mendez has re-eſtabliſht his Affairs, and makes it his great delight and honour to publiſh in all places the extream Obligations he has to *Henrietta.* Perhaps you are ignorant, *continued ſhe*, that *Mendez* was taken and made a Slave by the *Algerines*; this generous young Woman diſguiſed her ſelf, and came hither to redeem him, but he has not been ungrateful, for he has married her.

There is a moſt charming Union between them, *Hymen* has not baniſht Love in their particular. As ſhe was yet ſpeaking, ſhe perceiv'd my Countenance to alter on a ſuddain and that I was ready to faint; my Strength fail'd me, mine Eyes cloſed, and I ſunk down between her Arms; ſhe was greatly troubled at this; ſhe called my Companions, who put me to Bed, and endeavour'd to recover me from this pitiious condition.

This young Woman greatly concern'd her ſelf for me, and when I came to my ſelf, I began to complain; I uttered

Sighs

Sighs and Groans, able to move a Rock.

Meluza was affected at the Recital of ſuch a worſe than Barbarous Inſtance of Treachery, and without any notice to me, he inform'd himſelf, by his New Slave of my Father's Name, and immediately wrote to him what he knew of my Misfortunes.

Theſe Letters were like to have been the Death of my Mother; She could not imagine I could be in Chains at Eighteen Years of Age, without ſhedding a Torrent of Tears. But that which augmented her Grief, was, the Diſorder of my Father's Affairs. Several conſiderable Bankrupts had Ruined him; his Credit was gone, and it was impoſſible for him to procure the 20000. Crowns which *Meluza* demanded for my Ranſom.

The Generous Marqueſs *de Los Rios*, heard this News, came to my Father, and offered him what lay in his Power. *I do not do this*, ſaid he, *in deſign to force your Daughters Inclinations when ſhe ſhall be here; I ſhall love her always, but I will never diſpleaſe her.* My Father having no other way of Relief, thankfully accepted

of what was offertd him, and in a word, embarkt himſelf, and happily arriv'd at *Argiers*, in the time when I thought only of dying.

He forbore all thoſe Reproaches I deſerv'd; he redeem'd me, and at my Intreaty, this young Woman of *Seville*, for a Moderate Ranſom. We return'd together, and my Mother receiv'd me with ſuch Joy as is impoſſible to be expreſt. I anſwer'd hereto as much as was poſſible; but I carry'd always in my Heart, Madam, the fatal ſtroke which had wounded me: Whatever my Reaſon could repreſent to me, was not ſufficient to eface out of my Remembrance the Image of the Traitor *Mendez*.

I ſaw the Marqueſs *de Los Rios*: He dared not mention the Inclinations he ſtill had towards me; but I had ſuch preſſing Obligations to him, that Gratitude made me do for him, what my Inclinations would have made me do for another.

I gave him my Hand, and he his to me, with ſuch Affection, as if he had had no ſolid Matter of complaint againſt me.

In

In fine, I marry'd him, and apprehending leſt I ſhould ſee *Mendez*, that Ungrateful Wretch, to whom I owe ſuch Horror, and for whom I had ſo little, I pray'd the Marqueſs we might dwell in the Countrey-houſe he had near *Seville*.

He ever approv'd of what I liked; he wou'd have my Father and Mother retire; he leſs'ned the ſad Condition of their Fortune, by conſiderable Liberalities: And I may truly ſay, there never was a greater Soul. Judge, Madam, of all the Reproaches I made my Heart for its not being ſo tender to him as it ought to have been. It was not in my power to forget *Mendez*, and I always felt new Regrets, when I learnt his Felicity with the Unfaithful *Henrietta*.

Having paſt two years in a continual watching over my ſelf, that I might do nothing but what was agreeable to my Husband, Heav'n depriv'd me of him, of this Generous Husband; And he did for me in theſe laſt Moments, what he had already heretofore done, giving me all he had, with ſuch Teſtimonies of Eſteem and Affection, as much enhanced the Price of the Gift. He made

me the Richeſt Widow of *Andalouſia*, but he could not make me the Happieſt.

I would not return to *Seville*, where my Parents would have had me been; and to avoid it, I pretended a Journey farther into the Countrey, to look after ſome part of my Eſtate. I ſet out; but there being a particular Fatality in whatever relates to me, in arriving at an Inn, the firſt Object which ſtruck my ſight, was the Unfaithful *Mendez*. He was in deep Mourning, and had loſt nothing of whatever made me heretofore fancy him too Lovely. It is impoſſible to expreſs the Condition I was in, for endeavouring to get ſpeedily from him: I found my ſelf ſo weak and trembling, that I fell at his Feet. Although he knew me not at that Inſtant, yet he earneſtly endeavoured to raiſe me up; but the great Veil under which I was concealed, flying open, what became of him in ſeeing me? He remain'd no leſs confuſed than I was. He would have drawn near to me, but caſting a Furious Look on him: *Dareſt thou, Perjured Wretch*, ſaid I to him, *dareſt thou approach me? Art thou not afraid of the juſt puniſhment*

of

of thy Perfidiouſneſs? He was ſome time without anſwering me, and I was about leaving him when he ſtopt me. *Confound and overwhelm me with Reproaches, Madam,* ſaid he to me: *Give me the worſt, and moſt perfidious Names as is poſſible; they cannot be more than I deſerve: But my Death ſhall ſoon revenge your Quarrel: I ought to die with Sorrow for having betray'd you; and if I regret any thing in dying, it is only the having one Life to loſe, to expiate all the Crimes you can juſtly accuſe me of.* He appear'd to me much affected in ending theſe Words; and wou'd to Heavens his Repentance were really ſufficient and true! I wou'd not hazard a longer Converſation with him. I left him, diſdaining to return him an Anſwer. And this Mark of Contempt and Slighting, was, without doubt, more ſenſible to him, than all the Reproaches I might have made him.

He had ſome time ſince loſt his Wife, that Unfaithful Creature, who had helpt him to revolt againſt all the Offices of Love, Honour and Gratitude: And from that time he follow'd me every where. He was like a Complaining Sha-

Shadow, ever faſtned to my Feet; ſo he became ſo lean, pale, and chang'd that he was no longer diſcernable. Heavens! Madam, what Violence did I not offer my ſelf, in continuing to ill treat him. I found at laſt I wanted Strength to reſiſt the Weakneſs of my Heart, and the Aſcendant this Wretch had over me. Rather than to commit ſo ſhameful an Offence, and to forgive him, I parted for *Madrid*, where I have Relations, and ſought among them a Shelter against the Violence of mine own Inclinations.

I was not there long but *Mendoza* found me out. I muſt confeſs to you I was not heartily diſpleas'd at his Attendance on me, but maugre my Inclinations towards him, I put on a firm Reſolution to avoid him, ſeeing I could not ſincerely hate him; and unknown to every body, I took the Road to *Burgos*, where I am going to Cloyſter my ſelf with a Religious there, my Friend.

I flatter my ſelf, Madam, with the hopes of finding more reſt there than I have hitherto met with. The Beautiful Marqueſs here held her peace, and I ſtifi'd to her my particular Acknowledg-

men

ments for the Favour ſhe had done me. I aſſured her of the part I took in her Adventures: I conjured her to write to me, and to let me hear from her at *Madrid*; and ſhe promiſed it me in the moſt obliging manner as is poſſible.

We found the next Morning we cou'd not ſet out, it having ſnow'd all the Night, and no Path appearing on the Ground; but we wanted not Company to paſs the time in Play and Diſcourſe. Having been Three Days with the Marchioneſs *de Los Rios*, without any wearineſs at the length of the time, thrô the pleaſure I had of ſeeing and hearing her talk (for ſhe is one of the moſt lovely Women in the World). We parted with a mutual Regret, and it was not without doubling our Promiſes of writing to, and ſeeing one another hereafter.

The Weather mended, and I continued on my Journey to *Lerma*. We had traverſt dreadful Mountains, which bear the Name of *Sierra de Cogollos*, and it was not without great trouble we got thither. This Town is ſmall; ſhe has giv'n her Name to the famous Cardinal *de Lerma*, chief Miniſter to *Philip* III. It is from him that *Philip* IV. took the great Revenues

nues he had receiv'd from the King his Maſter. Here is a Caſtle which I will ſee to Morrow, and of which I ſhall give you an Account in my next. I am told an extraordinary Expreſs is arriv'd, and will ſet out to Night. I will lay hold of this opportunity of ſending to you, and ending this long Letter; for in truth I am tired both with the way, and with writing; but I ſhall never be weary of loving you.

From Lerma,
March *5th.*
1679.

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